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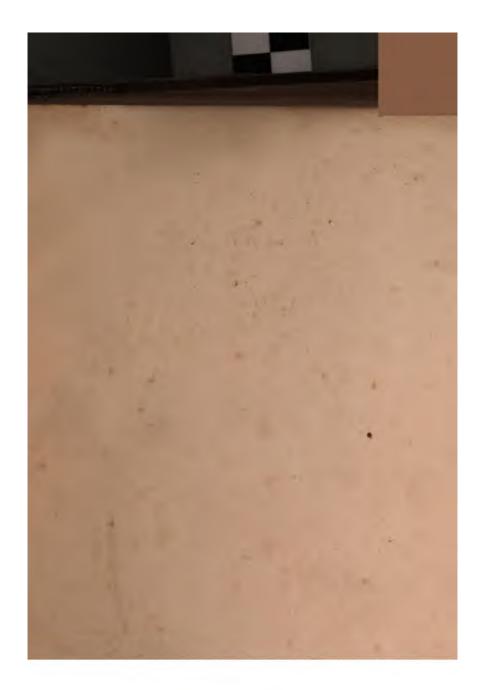
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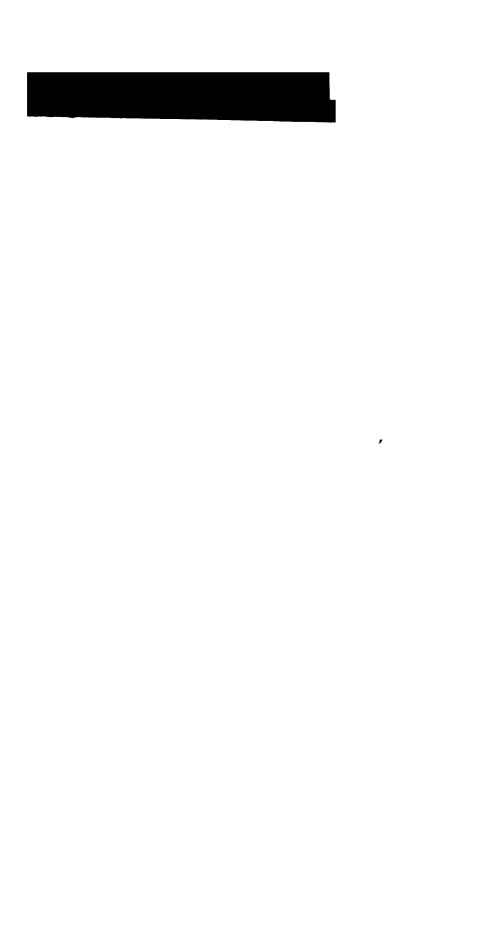
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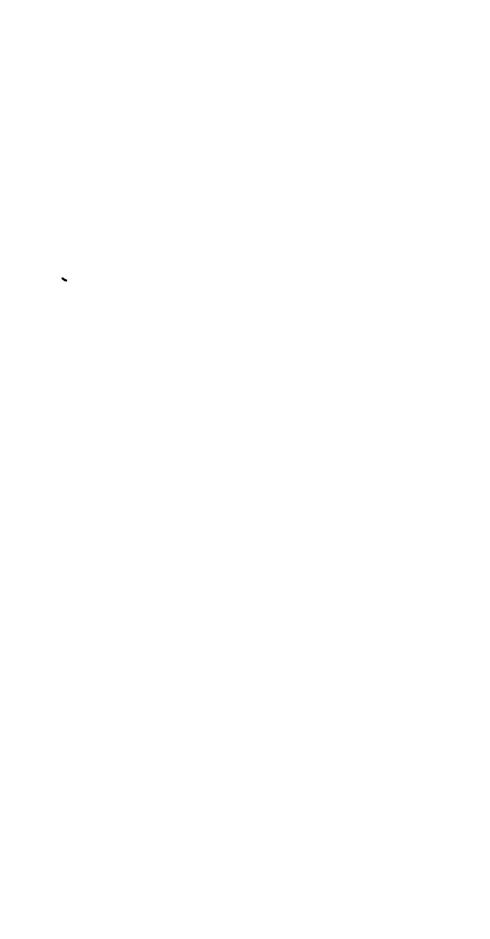
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SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.



SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.







THE

SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS;

OR

LANGUAGE OF FLORA.



In Eastern lands they talk in flowers, And they tell in a garland their loves and cares; Each blossom that blooms in their garden bowers, On its leaves a mystic language bears.

BY ROBERT TYAS,

Ninth Edition.

WITH TWENTY-NINE PLATES,

CONTAINING

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY FIGURES OF PLANTS, CAREFULLY DRAWN AND BEAUTIFULLY COLDURED,

BY JAMES ANDREWS.

R. TYAS, 8, PATERNOSTER ROW.

MDCCCXLII.



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LONDON CLARKE, PRINTER, SILVER STREET, FALCON SQUARE.

PREFACE.

THE continued and increasing popularity of the "Sentiment of Flowers," in its original form, induced the belief that an edition on a larger scale would not be unacceptable to the public.

Influenced by this belief, the present volume has been prepared. To each article is prefixed a Botanical description of the plant, in which its Natural and Linnæan class and order, and its specific characters are given; and nearly two hundred of them are carefully and accurately drawn and coloured, in order that the reader

may at once identify the flower described; indeed, without these figures there would be, in many cases, some difficulty in doing this, as a flower very commonly bears a different name in one district to that by which it is known in another.

The "Sentiment of Flowers" had its origin in that celebrated publication "Le Langage des Fleurs," but, though the system of Madame de la Tour (Aimé Martin) has been adopted, this work is not a mere translation. Great care has been taken to add such information as was required to render the work complete; and a discretion has been exercised in the rejection or alteration of those passages which were not suited to English taste; while the productions of our poets have been extensively read, in order to select illustrations

which would best harmonize with the quality of which each plant is made emblematical.

To acquire a knowledge of the principles on which the floral language is conducted it is recommended that the Introduction be first carefully perused, and the ingenious will then be enabled to

> Gather a wreath from their garden bowers, And tell the wish of their heart in flowers.

> > R. T.

London, March, 1842.

Dotices of the First Ebition.



"That which presents to the mind instruction and amusement at the same time will ever be welcome to those who wish well to the human race. We have before us, in the form of a small but neat and elegantly got up volume, another proof that the amusements of the domestic circle are becoming annually more elevated; and instead of the most unprofitable waste of time too often occupied in reading the exciting exapositions of the novelist, whose highest excellence is estimated only by his ability to affect the passions, there is in the little book before us much that is calculated to affect the senses, and supply a medium for the exercise of profitable reflection, in which the purer thoughts and ideas of those for whom it is professedly written may be cultivated to luxuriance in all that is amiable and good."—Floricultural Mag., 1837.

"A charming little book, from Madame de la Tour's Langage des Fleurs, in which all that was eligible for English readers in that popular tome is preserved and translated, all that might be objectionable omitted; and much is added of the translator's original matter, which considerably enhances the attraction of the whole. With a dozen of sweet floral-coloured plates, it is precisely the thing for a fair lady's boundar."—Lit. Gaz.

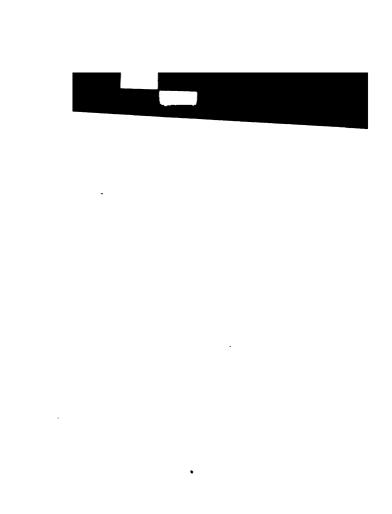
"The illustrations, twelve in number, are prettily drawn, and coloured with fidelity to nature; and each little bouquet, which to the uninitiated appears but to represent two or three simple flowers, to the skilled in the language of Flora, conveys an appropriate sentiment. Thus, a pleasing group of Myosotis, Cypress, and Scarlet Fimpernel speaks thus: "Forget me not, for alas! we may never meet again." We offer this advice to the public, and particularly to the ladies, admirers of flowers, forget not this little work, but, by your attention to it, encourage the editor to meet us again. We must not omit to state that the harmony between the qualities of the flowers and the sentiment attached to it, is in general well made out,"—Gentlemon's Mag.

"This is a charming book. Engravings of the most beloved, the most popular, and the most pocifical flowers, are very neatly and accurately coloured, and interspersed with fancibul and elegant descriptions and analogies, illustrated by quotations from the wide range of English poetry, and from whatever has been most gracefully and fondly said of those darlings of nature."—Tail's Mag.

"One of the prettiest books we have seen. It contains coloured engravings, a neatly told biography, if we may use the term, of each flower—all the graceful anecdotes connected with them, and some very beautiful and appropriate poetical quotations. It teaches, too,

'All that token flowers can tell, What words can never speak so well."

Court Journal.



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SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.

•

INTRODUCTION.

Or Flowers so much has been said and sung that it were impossible to write any thing new. They have been called "the joy of the shrubs which bear them;"—"the stars of the earth;" and the "alphabet of the angels;" and, indeed, as says Mr. Howitt, "of all the minor creations of God, they seem to be most completely the effusions of his love of beauty, grace, and joy. Beauty and fragrance are poured abroad over the earth in blossoms of endless varieties, radiant evidences of the boundless benevolence of the Deity. They are made solely to gladden the heart of man, for a light to his eyes, for a living inspiration of grace to his spirit, for a perpetual admiration. And accordingly they seize on our affections the first moment

that we behold them. With what eagerness do very infants grasp at flowers! As they become older, they would live for ever amongst them. They bound about in the flowery meadows like young fawns; they gather all they come near; they collect heaps; they sit among them and sort them, and sing over them and caress them, till they perish in their grasp.

This sweet May morning
The children are pulling
On every side,
In a thousand valleys far and wide,
Fresh flowers.

WORDSWORTH.

"We see them coming wearily into the towns and villages with their pinafores full, and with posies half as large as themselves. We trace them in shady lanes, in the grass of far-off fields, by the treasures they have gathered and have left behind, lured on by others still greater.

"As they grow up to maturity, they assume, in their eyes, new characters and beauties. Then they are strewn around them, the poetry of the earth. They become invested, by a multitude of associations, with innumerable spells of power over the human heart; they are to us memorials of the joys, sorrows, hopes, and triumphs, of our forefathers; they are, to all nations, the emblems of youth in its loveliness and purity."

Flowers to the Fair! to you these flowers I bring, And strive to greet you with an earlier spring; Flowers sweet and gay, and delicate like you, Emblems of innocence and beauty too.

With flowers the Graces bind their yellow hair, And flowery wreaths consenting lovers wear.

Flowers, the sole luxury which Nature knew, In Eden's pure and guiltless garden grew.

MRS. BARBAULD.

Let Fancy lead us, with her fair imaginings, and it shall be in pleasant paths, and through flowery ways:

> Go, cull the golden fruits of truth; Go, gather fancy's brilliant flowers;

and for a brief space let us wander in an earthly Eden. We will rove, hand in hand, with the ever-youthful goddess of flowers; and Zephyrus, her beloved, shall waft tributary honours from every clime. We will twine fair garlands for many a youthful brow; "we will not let a flower of the spring escape us;" but "crown ourselves with roses ere they be withered."

We may roam with Tasso through Syrian lands, "where soft perfumes diffuse from every flower;" or the deserts of Arabia, where

The acacia waves her yellow hair:

or shall we choose the Grecian isles, and join there a bridal train, "where the young maidens are crowned with fairest flowers? And there on every side are seen a succession of narcissuses, hyacinths, anemones, iris of all hues, violets of all sorts, roses of every kind, and every odoriferous plant." These the ancient Greeks scattered in the porticoes of their temples; with them they adorned their altars, and decorated the statues of their gods; they strewed them in the victor's path; and wore wreaths of flowers in their holy ceremonies.

It was the custom there to bring away

The bride from home at blushing shut of day,

Veiled in a chariot, heralded along

By strewn flowers, torches, and a marriage song.

KEATS.

And at their banquets and festivals they crowned themselves with

INTRODUCTION.

Garlands of every green, and every scent,
From vales deflowered or forest-trees branch-rent,
In baskets of bright osiered gold were brought,
High as the handles heaped, to suit the thought
Of every guest, that each as he did please
Might fancy-fit his brows, silk-pillowed at his ease.

KEATS.

If we pass to Italy, we shall find lilies, and violets, the narcissus, and flowers of the sweet smelling anise; with cassia, and other fragrant herbs, the soft hyacinth and the saffron marigold. And in Spain we may

> rest awhile in the bower O'er which the white-leaved orange flower Breathes its ambrosial sweets.

> > MELENDEZ.

Now let us away to the distant lands of Asia, where we shall not find the glorious garden of Eden, nor the far-famed gardens of once mighty Babylon; but there we may repose on beds of roses in Cashmere; and with the Persian maidens weave garlands of the violet, jasmine, or lotus flowers; we may trim the odorous night-blooming nyctanthes, with the drooping mimosa, which seems to do us homage as we approach it; we may cull the rich blossom from the canna, the

white arum, the yellow zanthium, and the classic hibiscus; we may rest secure under the bata tree, or recline beneath the dark and gloomy cypresses. Or seeing, should we prefer the plain of various colours? It is clad with groves and gardens, and watered by flowing rivulets - it is a place belonging to the abodes of heroes. The ground is silky in its appearance, and the air is scented with musky odours; so that you would be led to ask, Is it rose water which glides between the banks? The stalk of the lily bends under the weight of the flower; and the whole grove is charmed with the fragrance of the rose-bud. The pheasant walks gracefully among the flowers; and the dove and the nightingale warble from the branches of the cypress. From the present time to the latest age may these banks resemble the bowers of Paradise!

In Hindostan the god of love is known as Camdeo. There we may see the fair young child surrounded by gay laughter-loving nymphs. His mother never leaves him, — his spouse is Retty, the essence of affection, — and his bosom friend is Bessent, or Spring. The plains of Agra are his favourite resort. His bow

^{*} Sir William Jones.

is of sugar-cane, twined with flowers; his string is of bees; his five arrows are each pointed with an Indian flower. The Hindoo nymphs chant the following hymn to the Indian Cupid:

God of the flowery shafts, and flowery bow,
Delight of all above and all below!
Thy loved companion, constant from his birth,—
Is ycleped Bessent, gay spring on earth,—
Weaves thy green robes and flaunting bowers,
And from thy cloud draws balmy showers;
He with fresh arrows fills thy quiver,
(Sweet the gift, and sweet the giver,)
And bids the many-plumed warbling throng
Burst the fresh blossoms with their song:
"He bends the luscious cane, and twists the string
With bees,—how sweet, but, ah! how keen their sting!
He with five flowerets tips thy ruthless darts,
Which through five senses pierce enraptured hearts."

Translation by SIR WILLIAM JONES.

But we will leave this dangerous land, and wander through the ever-blooming vales of Japan. Let us deck ourselves with her gorgeous lilies, — her japonicas, — her flowers so beautiful that even the females are named from them. Where'er we roam we shall find that nature strews the earth with flowers.

We proceed to take a brief survey of the habits of flowers. Many varieties open their flowers in the morning, and close them in the evening; yet all do not open or close at the same hour. Plants of the same species are pretty regular to an hour in equal temperatures; hence the daily opening and shutting of the flower has been called Horologium Floræ.

It has been very truly observed that flowers were the first playthings of Linnæus, whose motto was,

Tantus amor florum.

This devoted lover of flowers carefully noticed the sensibility of plants, and composed a horologe of flowers. The list is given in his "Philosophia Botanica," which, however, is only valuable to us in giving the names of plants which open and close at stated periods, as the time given is for the meridian of Upsal, and we must therefore, in order to form one for Britain, make our own observations. For the use of our friends we have given a list of twenty-four (all of which may be easily procured), extracted from that magnificent and useful work, the Encyclopædia of Gardening, by J. C. Loudon, Esq., and by observation of the following plants, also, the ingenious reader may be enabled to add to the number. Many species of convolvulus and campanula, the marvel of Peru, or belle-de-nuit, broom, tu-

DIAL OF FLOWERS.

TIME OF OPENING.

							Ħ.	ъ.
Yellow Goat's Beard .						*T P.	3	5
Late flowering Dandelion						Leon.S.	4	1)
Bristly Helminthia .						H.E.	4	5
Alpine Borkhausia .						B ▲.	4	5
Wild Succory						C.1.	4	5
Maked-stalked Poppy						P.N.	5	0
Copper-coloured Day Lily						H.F.	5	0
Smooth Sow Thistle .						8.L.	5	0
Alpine Agathyraus						Age, A.	5	0
Small Bindweed						Con.A.	5	6
Common Nipple Wort .						L.C.	5	6
Common Dandelion .						LT.	5	6
Spotted Achyrophorus .						AM.	6	7
White Water Lily .						N.A.	7	0
Garden Lettuce						Lac.8.	7	0
African Marigold .						T.E.	7	0
Common Pimpernel .						A.A.	7	8
Mouse-ear Hawkweed						H.P.	8	0
Preliferous Pink						DP.	8	0
Field Marigold						Cal.▲.	9	ο
Purple Sandwort						A.P.	9	10
Small Purslane						P.O.	9	10
Creeping Mallow						M.C.	9	10
Chickweed						8 M.	9	1.)

These are the initial letters of the Latin names of the plants; they will
be found at length on the nest page.

DIAL OF PLOWERS.

TIME OF CLOSING.

		a .	¥.
Helminthia echioides	B.H.	13	0
Agathyrsus alpinus	▲,▲,	19	0
Borkhausia alpina	A.B.	19	1
Leontodon serotinus	L,D,	12	0
Malva caroliniana	C.M.	19	1
Dianthus prolifer	P.P.	1	0
Hieracium pilosella	M.H.	3	0
Anagallis arvensis	8.P.	3	3
Arenaria purpurea	P.8.	2	3
Calendula arvensis	P.M.	3	0
Tagetes erecta	A.M.	3	4
Convolvulus arvensis	8.B.	4	5
Achyrophorus maculatus	8.A.	4	5
Nymphesa alba	W.W.L.	5	0
Papaver nudicaule	N.P.	7	0
Hemerocallis fulva	C.D.L.	7	
Cichorium Intybus	W.8.	8	9
Leontodon taraxacum	C.D.	8	9
Tragopogon pratensis	Y.G.B.	9	10
Stellaria media	C.	9	10
Lapsana communis	C.N.	10	0
Lactuca sativa	G.L.	10	0
Somehus leavis	8.T.	11	12
Portulaca oleracea	8.P.	11	12

The time here stated is from noon to night.

lips, cress, hibiscus, yellow lily, white water lily, and dianthus.

See hieracium's various tribe
Of plumy seed and radiate flowers
The blooms of time their course describe,
And wake and sleep appointed hours.

Broad o'er its imbricated cap

The goat's-beard spreads its golden-rays,
But shuts its cautious petals up,

Retreating from the noontide blaze.

Pale as a pensive cloistered nun,

The Bethlehem-star her face unveils
When o'er the mountain peers the sun,
But shades it from the vesper gales.

Among the loose and arid sands The humble arenaria creeps; Slowly the purple star expands, But soon within its calyx sleeps.

And those small bells so lightly rayed
With young Aurora's rosy hue
Are to the noontide sun displayed,
But shut their plaits against the dew.

On upland slopes the shepherds mark
The hour when, as the dial true,
Chiconium to the towering lark
Lifts her soft eyes serenely blue.

And thou, "wee crimson tipped flower,"

Gatherest thy fringed mantle round

Thy bosom at the closing hour,

When night-drops bathe the turfy ground.

Unlike silené, who declines

The garish noontide's blazing light;
But, when the evening crescent shines,
Gives all her sweetness to the night.

Thus in each flower and simple bell,
That in our path untrodden lie,
Are sweet remembrances, which tell
How fast their winged moments fly.

SMITH.

The following beautiful lines are by Mrs. Hemans. They celebrate the far-famed dial of flowers constructed by Linnæus.

> 'Twas a lovely thought to mark the hours, As they floated in light away, By the opening and the folding flowers, That laugh to the summer's day.

Thus had each moment its own rich hue,
And its graceful cup and bell,
In whose coloured vase might sleep the dew,
Like a pearl in an ocean-shell.

To such sweet signs might the time have flowed In a golden current on,

INTRODUCTION.

Ere from the garden, man's first abode, The glorious guests were gone.

So might the days have been brightly told—
Those days of song and dreams,—
When shepherds gathered their flocks of old
By the blue Arcadian streams.

So in those isles of delight, that rest Far off in a breezeless main, Which many a bark, with a weary quest Has sought, but still in vain.

Yet is not life, in its real flight,

Marked thus—even thus—on earth,

By the closing of one hope's delight,

And another's gentle birth?

Oh! let us live, so that flower by flower, Shutting in turn, may leave A lingerer still for the sun-set hour, A charm for the shaded eve.

And among other poets we often meet with allusions to floral dials.

The dial, hid by weeds and flowers,
Hath told, by none beheld, the solitary hours.
WILSON.

Young Joy ne'er thought of counting hours, 'Till Care, one summer's morning, Set up, among his smiling flowers, A dial by way of warning.

MURRAY.

What a wide field for the imagination is displayed in the succeeding quotation from Hartley Coleridge. We might fancy ourselves luxuriating in a garden of roses, where "every flower that blows" would add to our felicity; where the most agreeable and delightful companions were assembled to pass the hours in heedless pleasure, - where no care, - no sorrow, - no unpleasant recollections of past disappointments, - of hopes destroyed,-or the overthrow of anticipated happiness,are allowed to interrupt our joy, and mar the beauty of the enchanted scene. Alas! these are but daydreams, scattered by a breath. The rude realities of life-the continual frustration of long-cherished designs,-and the constant blighting, if not extinction, of our fondest hopes, - all prove how utterly fallacious are the projects on which unassisted man attempts to construct a durable felicity. Read it! Does it not carry our fancy to an airy Eden?

Shall I sing of happy hours

Numbered by opening and closing flowers?

Of smiles, and sighs that give no pain,

And seem as they were heard in vain—

Softly heard in leafy bowers, Blent with the whispers of the vine, The half blush of the eglantine, And the pure sweetness of the jessamine; What is it those sighs confess?

But we are extending this part beyond our limits. Flowers afford a certain means of determining the state of the atmosphere. "Many species are admirable barometers. Most of the bulbous-rooted flowers contract, or close their petals entirely, on the approach of rain. The African marigold indicates rain, if the corolla is closed after seven or eight in the morning. The common bindweed closes its flowers on the approach of rain; but the anagallis arvensis, or scarlet pimpernel," which we often call shepherd's weather-glass, "is the most sure in its indications, as the petals constantly close on the least humidity of the atmosphere. Barley is also singularly affected by the moisture or the dryness of the air. The awns are furnished with stiff points, all turning towards one end; which extend when moist, and shorten when dry. The points, too, prevent their receding, so that they are drawn up or forward; as moisture is returned, they advance, and so on; indeed, they may actually be said to travel forwards.

The capsules of the geranium furnish admirable barometers. Fasten the beard, when fully ripe, upon a stand, and it will twist itself, or untwist, according as the air is moist or dry. The flowers of the chick-weed, convolvulus, and oxalis, or wood-sorrel, close their petals on the approach of rain."

Gardens have been the delight of poets in all ages. All our poets have sung of flowers. They serve all purposes; and we are reminded of the fable of the flowers, where the rose says,—

What can a poet do without us?

"But it is not poets alone who half-worship flowers. What an enthusiastic devotion is that which sends a man from the attractions of home, the ties of neighbourhood, the bonds of country, to range plains, valleys, hills, and mountains, for a new flower! What a spirit must have animated Hermann, Hasselquist, Tournefort, Linnæus, Solander, Saussure, Humboldt, and hundreds of those who have sacrificed every personal convenience and selfish motive for the sake of illustrating the volume of nature, and opening almost a new existence upon those whose researches are necessarily limited. But the love of flowers is not shared exclusively by the

poet and the naturalist. Oh no! the little child loves the flower-garden, and watches with intense interest the early opening buds, such fair types of itself. The young, the middle-aged, and the hoary head silvered with the snows of three-score years and ten; all, all hang with delight over the blooming parterre. The bud of infancy, the half-expanded flower of youth, the perfect blooms of the meridian of life, and the drooping leaves of closing existence, are here all seen and noted. No wonder that man, in the beautiful simplicity of earlier times, loved flowers, and hence formed an eloquent language that spoke to the heart in a 'still small voice,' more touching than the tenderest accents. No wonder that the most lovely ornament for the young virgin was a chaplet of fair flowers; the most glorious distinction of the warrior a wreath of bays. No wonder that the bier of the early dead was strewed with these passing emblems of a passing existence."

The flowers that we behold, each year,
In chequered meads their heads to rear,
Now rising from their tomb,
E'en these do cry
That, though men die,
New life from death may come.
HAGTHORPE.

May-day — May-day, that revives such joyful reminiscences of our childhood — bringing back to us the pleasures of "by-past time," in remembrance and reality, May-day must not be forgotten.

> Hail! thou of ever-circling time, That gracest still the ceaseless flow! Bright blossoms of the season's prime, Aye, hastening on to winter's snow!

Hail! thou, the fleet year's pride and prime! Hail! day, which fame should bid to bloom!

Hail! image of primeval time! Hail! sample of a world to come!

LANGHORNE.

"The flowery month of May," says Peacham, "must be drawn as a youth, with a sweet and amiable countenance, clad in a robe of white and green, embroidered with daffodils, hawthorns, and blue-bottles; upon his head a garland of white, damask, and red roses; in one hand a lute; upon the fore-finger of the other a nightingale; and the sign Gemini in the back-ground."

May-day festivities are now falling rapidly into disuse; but in ancient times it was celebrated as was fitting by the young. They rose shortly after midnight, and went to some neighbouring wood, attended by songs and music, there breaking green branches from the trees, and making nosegays, wreaths, and crowns, of flowers. They returned home at the rising of the sun, and made their windows and their doors gay with garlands. In the villages they danced during the day round the May-pole, which afterwards remained the whole year untouched, except by the seasons, a fading emblem, and a consecrated offering to the goddess of flowers." Chancer, in his conclusion of the Court of Love, hath described the feast of May.

Forth goth all the court, both most and least,
To fetch the floures fresh and braunch and blome.—
And namely hawthorn brought both page and grome,
And then rejoysen in their great delite,
Eke ech at others threw the floures bright,
The primrose, violete, and the gold,
With fresh garlants party blue and white.

The twenty-ninth of May, the anniversary of the restoration of King Charles, is celebrated at Gainsborough, in Lincolnshire, with much rejoicing among the junior members of the community. Rising early in the morning, they sally forth into the neighbouring woods, and break off large boughs from the oak trees, which they convey into the town, and fix them projecting from the windows. To these they suspend garlands of flowers, ornamented with birds' eggs, which are cruelly taken

from the nests found in the hedges around. Garlands are also suspended over the streets by cords passing from one window to another on the opposite side. Boys also deck their hats with a twig of the oak tree, the leaves of which they ornament with gold leaf.

To pass, however, more immediately to the contents of this little work, we would observe that the sentimental language of Flora is by no means of modern invention. "The hieroglyphics of the ancient Egyptians abound in floral symbols, and from hence we may surmise that the Greeks became accustomed to this figurative language. Their poetical fables are full of the metamorphoses of their deities into plants; indeed, there was no flower to which their imaginations had not affixed some meaning; even to this day a young Arcadian is seldom seen without his turban full of flowers, presented to him by the beauty he admires, by the silent language of which his hopes are kept alive; and it forms one of the chief amusements of the Greek girls to drop these symbols of their esteem or scorn upon the various passengers who pass their latticed windows."

In the gardens of the East, Flora receives the homage due for her widely-scattered and various gifts. Oh! flowers—flowers—we may well think them the "alphabet of the angels." But how coldly do we look on them; how often are we regardless of their charms here; while in other lands they almost subserve the use of writing,—expressing by a blossom, joy, grief, hope, despair, devotion, piety, and almost every sentiment that fills the mind.

> In Eastern lands they talk in flowers, And they tell in a garland their loves and cares: Each blossom that blooms in their garden bowers On its leaves a mystic language bears.

The rose is the sign of joy and love, Young blushing love in its earliest dawn; And the mildness that suits the gentle dove From the myrtle's snowy flower is drawn.

Innocence dwells in the lily's bell, Pure as a heart in its native heaven; Fame's bright star, and glory's swell, By the glossy leaf of the bay are given.

The silent, soft, and humble heart In the violet's hidden sweetness breathes; And the tender soul, that cannot part, A twine of evergreen fondly wreathes.

The cypress, that darkly shades the grave, Is sorrow that mourns its bitter lot; And faith, that a thousand ills can brave, Speaks in thy blue leaves, Forget-me-not.

Then gather a wreath from the garden bowers, And tell the wish of thy heart in flowers.

PERCIVAL.

Lady M. W. Montague was one of the first to introduce floral language into Europe. When at Pera she sent a Turkish love-letter to a friend in England, from which we extract the botanical emblems.

CLOVE. You are as slender as this clove!

You are an unblown rose!

I have long loved you, and you have not known it.

JONQUIL. Have pity on my passion!

PEAR. Give me some hope!

A ROSE. May you be pleased, and your sorrows mine!

A STRAW. Suffer me to be your slave!

CINNAMON. But my fortune is yours!

PEPPER. Send me an answer!

Her ladyship states that there is no flower without a verse belonging to it; and that it is possible to quarrel, reproach, or send letters of passion, friendship, or civility, or even of news, without ever inking the fingers.

Happy the young and light-hearted maiden who, ignorant of the silly pleasures of the world, feels no occupation to be more agreeable than the study of plants. She seeks in the field her most touching ornaments; each spring brings to her new joys; and every morning a fresh harvest of flowers repays her diligent cultivation: a garden is to her an inexhaustible source of delight and instruction. By a charming art these beautiful productions of nature are converted into liquid perfumes, precious essences, or valuable conserves; and one of the most delightful accomplishments that can be chosen for the fair sex is that of catching the transient shades of beauty which are found upon flowers, and fixing them on paper. The able pencil shows to us the queen of spring with her spherical form, her delicate colours, the beautiful green of her foliage, the thorns which protect her, the dew-drops which bathe her, and the butterfly which skims lightly over her beautiful form. "The beauty and grace that may be displayed in grouping flowers, united with the gaiety of their colours and the harmony of their tints, are objects well worthy the attention of those who were born to render life delightful." Nothing is forgotten in depicting them; and when we look upon the faithful representative, even in the depths of winter, we may fancy that we inhale the perfumes of spring. This study, in imparting a taste for all that is beautiful in nature, fills the soul with ravishing emotions, and opens before us the enchanted avenues of a world full of wonders." "Flowers," says Pliny, "are the joy of the shrubs which bear them." This eminent observer of nature might also have added, "and of those who love them and cultivate them."

The interpreters of our sweetest sentiments, flowers lend their charms even to love - to that pure and chaste affection which, as Plato observes, is an inspiration from the gods. The expression of this divine passion ought to be divine also, and it was to illustrate this that flowers were ingeniously made emblematical of our most delicate sentiments; they do, in fact, utter in "silent eloquence" a language better than writing; they are the delicate symbols of the illusions of a tender heart and of a lively and brilliant imagination. In the glorious days of chivalry, the respectful lover oft made use of the sweet language of flowers. Gothic books are full of emblems composed of flowers; and we find, in the romance of Perceforet, that a garland of roses is the lover's treasure. We read also, in that of Amadis, that Oriana, a prisoner who had neither the opportunity of speaking or writing to her

lover, apprised him of her misfortune by throwing, from the high tower in which she was confined, a rose bathed in her tears. What a charming expression of sorrow and of love! The Chinese have an alphabet composed entirely of plants and roots; and we may yet read upon the rocks of Egypt the ancient conquests over that people, recorded by foreign plants. This language is as old as the world, but its characters are renewed in each succeeding spring.

Should a beautiful odalisk wish to avenge herself on a tyrant who has treated her with cruelty, she may, with a single floweret of the lily of the valley, thrown as by chance, inform a young icoglan, that the favourite sultana, weary of her tyrannous lord, wishes to inspire a sentiment of lively and pure affection. If he should return a rose, it would be as though he had said that reason was opposed to her projects; but a tulip, with a black heart, and flame-coloured petals, would assure her that her wishes were understood and partaken of. This is an ingenious mode of correspondence, which can never betray or divulge a secret.

This eloquent language gives a charm to the sweet intercourse of friendship, and to filial and maternal love; it adds to the delight of youthful affections, and affords an excellent mode of recognition. The unfortunate may even find a faithful messenger in a flower. Roucher, when in solitary confinement, consoled himself in studying the flowers which his daughter collected for him; and, a few days before his death, he sent her two dead lilies, to express, at the same time, the purity of his soul and the fate which awaited him.

The poet Saadi, author of "Gulistan, or the Rose-Garden," engaged to break his chains by presenting a rose to the man who owned him as his slave. He said, "Do good unto thy servant whilst thou hast it in thy power, for the season of power is often as brief as the existence of this beautiful flower."

The sentiments and emblems found in this volume are chiefly derived from the ancients, and especially from Eastern nations. In pursuing the research, it has been found that time, instead of rendering their sentiments less appropriate, has confirmed their fitness, and continually added new charms to the language. Little study is necessary in the science here taught; nature has been before us. It will suffice that two or three rules be given, which the reader

will do well first to learn, and then by reference to the work, which is systematically arranged for the purpose, he will be enabled to converse in the language of flowers. By the first rule, a flower presented inclining to the right expresses a thought; reversed, it is understood to convey the contrary of that sentiment. For example: - A rose-bud, with its thorns and leaves, is understood to say, "I fear, but I hope." The same rose-bud reversed would signify that "You must neither fear nor hope." You may convey your sentiments very well by a single flower. As the second rule, take the rose-bud which has already served us for an example, and strip it of its thorns, it tells you that "There is every thing to hope." Strip it of its leaves, it will express that "There is every thing to fear."

The expression of nearly all flowers may be varied by changing their position. Thus, the marigold, for example: placed upon the head, it signifies "distress of mind;" upon the heart, "the pains of love;" upon the breast, "ennui." It is also necessary to know that the pronoun I is understood by inclining the flower to the right, and the pronoun thou by inclining it to the left.

Such are the first principles of this mysterious language. Love and friendship ought to join their discoveries to render it more perfect: these sentiments, the most delightful in nature, are alone able to perfect what they have originated. The Sentiment of Flowers.

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SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.

ABSENCE.

WORMWOOD - ARTEMISIA ABSINTHIUM.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - COMPOSITÆ.

ART. CLASS, - SYNGENESIA; ORDER, - SUPERFLUA.

This is an herbaceous plant, perennial in its duration and deciduous in its habit. The leaves, which are bipinnatifid, are covered with short silky down, having lanceolate segments. The flowers are of a greenish yellow, hemispherical in form and slightly drooping. It is common on dry soils in waste places in rural districts, and flowers from July to September.

Wormwood is considered the bitterest of plants. Its scientific name, Absinthium, is derived from the Greek, and signifies—without sweetness. It is, therefore, very appropriately made the emblem of absence; which, according to La Fontaine, is the greatest of evils.

To be separated from those to whom we are devotedly attached is assuredly one of the severest trials of life; and, if that separation be involuntary, or only in obedience to those who have the guardianship of our early years, the wretchedness of absence is enhanced three-fold. There is all the anxiety for the health and comfort of the absent, without an opportunity of offering consolation; for, though "the heart alone knows its own bitterness," we feel that the sympathy of a friend can often alleviate the deepest distress.

ACCOMMODATING DISPOSITION.

RED VALERIAN. - VALERIANA RUBRA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — VALERIANEE.
ART. CLASS, — TRIANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

This is a deciduous herbaceous perennial. The whole plant is smooth, somewhat glaucous, growing from twelve to twenty-four inches in height, with branching leafy stems. The leaves are opposite, in some instances entire, and in others toothed, sessile. The flowers grow in numerous unilateral spikes, each flower having a pair of opposite bracteæ about the length of the spur. They are scentless. The plant is found commonly on old walls and in waste places; in flower from June to September.

THE red-flowered valerian has but recently been introduced into our gardens from the Alpine rocks, where it grows naturally. Its appearance is showy, but always disordered. In its cultivated state it still

has the bearing of a rustic, which imparts to it somewhat of the air of a parvenu; notwithstanding, this wild beauty owes its fortune to its merit. Its root is an excellent remedy for those diseases which produce weakness; an infusion of it strengthens the sight, re-animates the spirits, and drives away melancholy. It continues in flower nearly the whole year, and is much improved by cultivation, though it never disdains its wild origin, but often quits our borders to deck the sides of a barren hill, or to climb over old and ruined walls. The valerians of our woods and our fields possess greater medicinal virtues and as much beauty as this emblem of an accommodating disposition; but they are neglected by the florist because they yield not so gracefully to his training hand as that derived from the Alps. It is difficult to say whence it derives the name of valerian; Linnæus supposes it to be named after a certain king, Valerius, whilst De Théis thinks it altered from the verb valere (to heal), on account of its medicinal qualities.

ACTIVITY.

THYME.3 - THYMUS SERPYLLUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LABIATA.
ART. CLASS, — DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, — GYMNIOSPERMA.

An ornamental evergreen, bearing purple flowers from June to August, and common on British heaths. The stems are branched and decumbent; the leaves, flat, ovate, obtuse, and entire; petiolate; fringed with hairs at the base. The flowers, capitate. Propagated by cuttings, and thrives best in sandy peat.

The wild bee 'mid a bed of thyme.

H. COLERIDGE.

FLIES of all shapes, beetles of every colour, with the industrious bee and gay butterfly, continually surround the flowery tufts of thyme.

It may be that this lowly plant appears to these light-winged inhabitants of the air, whose ephemeral lives cease ere spring closes, as an immense tree covered with eternal verdure, and as old as the earth itself, upon which these sparkling flowers are fixed, like so many splendid vases filled with honey for their use and enjoyment alone.

The ancient Greeks regarded thyme as the symbol of activity. No doubt they had observed that its aromatic perfume was very salutary to the aged, whose exhausted powers it revives, imparting fresh energy and vigour.

Activity is a warlike virtue, and is invariably associated with genuine courage. In the days of chivalry, ladies often embroidered, on the scarfs of their knights, a bee hovering around a sprig of thyme. It is said that he who adopted this two-fold symbol was endowed with the quality of gentleness in all his actions.

AFTER-THOUGHT.

MICHAELMAS DAISY.4 - ASTER TRIPOLIUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMPOSITÆ.
ART. CLASS, — SYNGENESIA; ORDER, — SUPERFLUA.

A deciduous herbaceous perennial, highly ornamental in our gardens in the months of August and September. The stem is smooth; the leaves, linear-lanceolate, entire, fleshy, smooth, obscurely three-ribbed. The flowers, corymbosc. The scales of the involucrum, lanceolate, obtuse, and somewhat membraneous.

This plant begins to put forth its flowers when others are becoming rare. Its hardy nature renders it suitable to any soil or situation; and its beautiful flowers enliven our gardens as the floral season closes. It seems to be the after-thought of Flora, who smiles on our parterres as she leaves them.

AGITATION.

TREMBLING OR QUAKING GRASS.5 - BRIZA MEDIA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — GRAMINEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — TRIANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

This is an ornamental perennial apetalous grass, common in the pastures of England, and flowering in the months of May and June. The panicle is erect; the spikelets, finely cordate, about seven flowered; glume, less than florets.

MOVING PLANT. - HEDYSARUM GYRANS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LEGUMINOSÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIADELPHIA; ORDER, — DECANDRIA.

A curious evergreen herbaceous plant, a native of the East Indies, introduced into this country in 1775, and cultivated in bark stoves. Its duration is biennial. It bears a purple flower in July and August, and grows best in a peat and loamy soil, where the former predominates.

The common quaking grass is very ornamental in its appearance, and is frequently gathered and placed in vases in drawing-rooms, where its elegance renders it a fit occupant. Linnæus observes that the moving plant is wonderful on account of its voluntary motion, which is not caused by any touch, irritation, or movement in the air, as in the sensitive plant, &c. No sooner have the plants, raised from seed, acquired their ternate leaves, than they begin to be in motion this way and that. This movement never ceases during the whole period of their vegetation, nor are they observant of any direction,

order, or time. One leaf will frequently revolve, while another on the same petiole is still; and sometimes a few leaflets only will be seen in motion, then nearly all move at once. The whole plant is very rarely agitated, and that only during its first year. Swartz observes that the motion is irregular, and that it sometimes ceases entirely; that it is immoveable in a very hot day, being agitated only in the evening, and that slowly. In our climate, the leaves, in general, only make a faint and feeble attempt towards the middle of the day in exerting their extraordinary faculty.

AMIABILITY.

JASMINE.6 - JASMINUM OFFICINALE.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — JASMINEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — DIANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous climber, bearing white flowers from June to October. It was introduced into this country in 1548, and is propagated by cuttings. It thrives well in common garden soil. Leaves, primate acuminate: the buds, upright.

> The jasmine, throwing wide her elegant sweets, The deep dark green of whose unvarnished leaf Makes more conspicuous, and illumines more, The bright profusion of her scatter'd stars.

COWPER.

THERE are some persons endowed with a disposition

attached zo a fair, tihongie portionless, damuel, he presented her with a homenst on her birth-day; and, in order to render it more acceptable, ornamented it with a sprig of jammine. The young maiden, to preserve the freshness of this pretty stranger, placed it in the earth, where it remained green until the return of spring, when it builded forth and was covered with flowers. She had profited by her lover's lessons, and now cultivated her highly-prized jasmine with care, for which she was amply repaid by its rapid growth. The poverty of the lovers had been a bar to their union; now, however, she had amassed a little fortune by the sale of cuttings from the plant which love had given her, and bestowed it, with her hand, upon the gardener of her heart. The voung girls of Tuscany, in remembrance of this adventure, always deck themsolves, on their wedding-day, with a nosegay of jasmine; and they have a proverb, that "she who is worthy to wear a nosegay of jasmine is as good as a fortune to her husband."

Ought we not then to cultivate more generally what love first scattered abroad? for Cotton observes, how numerous are the purposes to which it may be applied:

Here jasmine spreads the silver flower, To deck the wall or weave the bower.

Carrington, one of nature's poets, makes it expressive of sympathy; which is a very prominent quality in amiability:

The jasmine droops above the honoured dead.

Churchill makes this plant one of Flora's favourites.

The jessamine, with which the queen of flowers, To charm her god, adorns his favourite bowers; Which brides, by the plain hand of neatness drest, Unenvied rival! wear.

The seed of the jasmine will not ripen in our climate, but the plant is increased by layering down the branches, which take root in one year; they may then be separated from the parent stock, and be planted where they are to remain. It may also be propagated by cuttings, which ought to be planted in the early part of autumn, and the earth covered with sand, ashes, or saw-dust, to keep the frost from entering the ground.

ARDOUR.

CUCKOO PINT; OR WAKE BOBIN. T - ARUM MACULATUM.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, AROIDEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, POLYANDRIA.

The common arum is a tuberous-rooted perennial, and is commonly found in flower during the months of May, June, and July, in shady places. The leaves are all radical, between halbert shape and arrow shape; lobes, deflexed; spadix, club shaped, obtuse, shorter than the spathe.

THE roots of these plants, of which there are more than fifty species, are nearly white. On tasting them, they seem to be merely mucilaginous and tasteless; but they soon affect the tongue as if pricked with needles. This disagreeable sensation may be alleviated by milk, butter, or oil. The plant is very abundant in the Isle of Portland, where the roots are eaten by the country people. They are also macerated, steeped, and dried to a powder, which is sent to London, where it is sold under the name of Portland sago. The French, also, obtain a powder from them, which is used as a wash for the skin, being sold under the title of Cypress powder.



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ARTIFICE.

CLEMATIS. - CLEMATIS FLAMMULA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RANUNCULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

A sweet scented climber, running to the height of about twenty feet, deciduous in its habit, bearing a white flower from July to October; introduced from France into this country in 1596. Leaves, primate, segments, smooth, entire, or three lobed, and various in form.

This is a climbing shrub of rapid growth, ornamental, and highly fragrant. Its leaves are used by mendicants to produce ulcers, in order to excite commiseration. This infamous artifice is often the cause of real and permanent wounds.

A beautiful species of this flower has been introduced into this country from Japan by Dr. Siebold, which has been named the Violet Clematis (Clematis Cœrulea). Its flowers are of a deepblue or purple colour, of a great delicacy and transparency. It grows freely and blooms profusely, and is considered by florists to be a great accession to our hardy climbers.

ARTS (THE).

BEAR'S BREECH. -- ACANTHUS MOLLIS.

NAT. CLASS,—DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER,—SCROPHULARINEZ. ART. CLASS, — DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, — ANGIOSPERMA.

A native of Italy, introduced into this country in 1548. It is deciduous in its habit, and perennial in its duration, highly ornamental, bearing a purplish-white flower in July, August, and September. It is propagated by division. Leaves, sinuated, unarmed.

The roof

Of thickest covert was inwoven shade,

Laurel and myrtle, and what higher grew

Of firm and fragrant leaf; on either side

Acanthus, and each odorous bushy shrub,

Fenced up the verdant wall; each beauteous flower,

Iris all hues, roses, and jessamine,

Rear'd high their flourish'd heads between, and wrought

Mosaic; underfoot the violet,

Crocus, and hyacinth, with rich inlay,

Broider'd the ground, more colour'd than with stone

Of costliest emblem.

PARADISE LOST.

THE acanthus is found in hot countries, along the shores of great rivers.

Le Nil du vert Acanthe admire le feuillage.

It grows freely in our climate; and Pliny assures us that it is a garden herb, and is admirably adapted

for ornament and embellishment. The ancients tastefully adorned their furniture, vases, and most costly attire, with its elegant leaves. And Virgil writes, that the robe of Helen was bordered with a wreath of acanthus in relief.

This beautiful model of the arts has become their emblem; and he will be talented indeed, who shall produce any thing to excel its richness. If any obstacle resists the growth of the acanthus, it seems to struggle to overcome it, and to vegetate with renewed vigour. So genius, when acted upon by resistance or opposition, redoubles its attempts to overthrow every impediment.

It is said that the architect, Callimach, passing near the tomb of a young maiden who had died a few days before the time appointed for her nuptials, moved by tenderness and pity, approached to scatter some flowers on her tomb. Another tribute to her memory had preceded his. Her nurse had collected the flowers which should have decked her on her wedding-day; and putting them, with the marriage veil, in a little basket, had placed it near the grave upon a plant of acanthus, and then covered it with a tile. In the succeeding spring the leaves of the acanthus grew round the basket; but being hindered in their growth by the projecting tile, they recoiled and surmounted its extremities. Callimach, surprised by this rural decoration, which seemed the work of the Graces in tears, conceived the capital of the Corinthian column; a magnificent ornament, still used and admired by the whole civilized world.

ASSIGNATION.

PIMPERNEL.8 - ANAGALLIS ARVENSIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — PRIMULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A common weed on sandy or gravelly soils, in all kinds of cultivated lands, flowering throughout the summer. The root is small and annual. The leaves are ovate, sessile, dotted beneath. The edge of the corolla is ragged glandulose. It is the only British scarlet flower beside the poppy.

PLINY states that the Greeks and Romans, mixing the juice of this plant with honey, used the compound for complaints of the eyes. Ettmuller, and others, regarded it as a cure for madness; and Quercetanus, who was noted for his ability to cure this disease, administered decoctions of pimpernel after antimonial vomits and laxative medicine. In malignant fevers, accompanied with low muttering delirium, or when the functions of the brain are disturbed, it is said to be an efficacious medicine. Its medicinal qualities, for various other diseases, have been highly extolled by many writers.

The common pimpernel is a beautiful trailing weed, and one of the Floræ horologicæ, opening its flowers regularly about eight minutes past seven o'clock, and closing them about three minutes past two o'clock. It serves, also, as an hydrometer; for, if rain fall, or there be much moisture in the atmosphere, the flowers either do not open, or close up again. It is frequently called the shepherd's weather-glass.

Closed is the pink-eyed pimpernel;

'Twill surely rain; I see, with sorrow,
Our jaunt must be put off to-morrow.

DR. JENNER.

ASYLUM, PROTECTION.

JUNIPER.9 - JUNIPERUS COMMUNIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CONIFERE.
ART. CLASS, — DICCIA; ORDER, — MONADELPHIA.

A local plant, generally abundant where it grows naturally, which is usually on open hilly spots, on limestone or chalky soil. Its leaves are smooth, linear, terminating in a sharp point, glaucous on the upper side. Catkins, small, axillary, yellowish brown. Berries, nearly globular, not attaining maturity until the end of the second summer; so that the flowers, the green, and the ripe fruit, may be gathered at the same time.

The ancients consecrated this shrub to the Eumenides. The smoke of its green branches was the incense which, in preference, they chose to offer to the infernal gods; and burnt its berries on funereal occasions, to drive away evil spirits. The simple villagers of our own land superstitiously believe that the perfume of its berries purifies the air, and protects them from the malevolence of wicked genii.

The Chinese delight to decorate their gardens with this plant. It groups and combines very well with cypresses, American cedars, and various species of the pine and fir tribe. It is commonly found growing wild on the outskirts of woods and forests, where it often affords a safe retreat to the hunted hare, which, in the last extremity, conceals itself beneath its protecting branches. It is said that the powerful odour emitted by this plant defeats the keen scent of the hound.

Its thick branches, bristling with thorns, are covered with thousands of brilliant insects, which seem to imagine this tree is provided as a protection for their weakness.

AUSTERITY.

THISTLE.10 - CARDUUS NUTANS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMPOSITE.
ART. CLASS, — SYNGENESIA; ORDER, — EQUALIS.

This species is generally found in grass fields, especially on a chalky soil. The stem is from two to three feet high, striated, cottony; interruptedly winged and spinous with the decurrent bases of the leaves. The leaves are oblong, deeply sinuated, notched, and waved, green on both sides; the segments all terminating in sharp spines. Flowers large, solitary at the ends of branches, deep reddish purple or crimson, smelling powerfully like musk towards evening in hot weather. They appear about July or August.

This prickly, though somewhat graceful, weed has given its title to a Scotch order of knighthood. It might be said the Scotch order, par éminence; as it also bears the name of St. Andrew, the patron saint

of that nation. The collar is of gold, interlaced with flowers of the thistle, and bears the following motto: Nemo me impune lacessit. "None shall annoy me with impunity."

[We beg to be understood that we do not intend to prefer austerity as the national characteristic of our northern brethren. — Ed.]

AVERSION.

vice exclusions was accessed.

THE CHINA OR INDIAN PINK. - DIANTHUS CHINENSIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CARYOPHYLLER.
ART. CLASS, — DECANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

An evergreen herbaceous biennial, ornamental in its appearance, bearing a red flower in July and September; introduced into this country in 1713, propagated by seeds; thriving well in rich mould. Stem, branched; flowers, solitary. Scales, linear, leafy; petals, toothed; leaves, linear lanceolate.

This gaily painted flower we have taken from the fertile soil of the East to decorate our parterres. Its colours are richer than those of the sweet-william, and it continues in flower for a longer period; but "its flowers being placed singly on branching stems, like those of the common pink, they never present

that fine mass of colour which the large umbel of the sweet-william exhibits, and they are entirely deficient of that fragrance for which the pink is so much admired."

BASENESS.

DODDER.11 - CUSCUTA EUROPÆA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CONVOLVULACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — TETRANDIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

A singular parasite, utterly destitute of leaves, climbing about two or three feet high upon thistles, oats, or any plants that are crowded together and will afford it nourishment. The flowers are nearly sessile, without scales at the bases of the stamens; stigmas, acute.

THE cuscuta, or dodder, is a genus of parasitical plants, fastening itself to, and deriving its nourishment from, others. The seed does not split into lobes, but opens and puts forth a little spiral body, which is the embryo. The stalk twines about some other plant contrary to the sun's apparent motion: or from right to left, sending out from the inner surface a number of little vesicles, which attach themselves to the bark of the supporting plant. By degrees, the longitudinal vessels of the stalk shoot from their extremities, and insinuate themselves so intimately

that it is easier to break than to disengage them. Like the vile parasite, it draws all the strength from its supporter, until that perishes.

BEAUTY.

FULL BLOWN ROSE. - ROSA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

[We have not deemed it advisable to mention a particular rose as being intended to represent beauty; any rose when full blown is sufficiently expressive of the sentiment.]

Rose! thou art the sweetest flower
That ever drank the amber shower;
Rose! thou art the fondest child
Of dimpled spring, the wood-nymph wild!

MOORE'S ANACREON.

This beautiful flower, and universal favourite of nature, has never been described in language adequate to convey an idea of its charms, although each poet in turn has made it the theme of song, or introduced culogiums on its beauty to heighten the attractions of his pocsy.

Not one of all the train has, however, been able to do justice to its merits, though they have denominated it the daughter of heaven, the ornament of earth, and the glory of spring.

When it opens its delicate buds, the eye surveys its harmonious outlines with delight. But how shall we describe the delicate tints of its enchanting colours, or the sweet perfume which it exhales? Behold, in the spring it raises itself softly in the midst of its elegant foliage, surrounded by its numerous buds. This, the queen of flowers, and the pride of Flora, seems to sport with the air that fans her, to deck herself with the dew-drops that impearl her, and to smile upon the rays of the sun which cause the expansion of her beautiful form.

Proud be the rose, with rains and dews Her head impearling.

WORDSWORTH.

In producing this flower, nature appears to have exhausted herself by her prodigality, in attempting to produce so fine a specimen of freshness, of beauty in form, of exquisite perfume, of brilliancy of colour, and of grace. The rose adorns the whole earth, as it is the commonest of flowers. The same day that its beauty is perfected it dies; but each spring restores it to us with renewed freshness. Poets have had fair

opportunities for singing its praises, yet they have not rendered its eulogy common-place, but its name alone redeems their names from forgetfulness. Emblem of all ages, — interpreter of all our sentiments, — the rose mingles in the gaiety of our feasts, in our happiness, and in our sorrows. It is also the ornament of beauty, and lends its soft carnation hues to the blush of modesty. It is given as the prize of virtue; and is the image of youth, of innocence, and of pleasure. Venus is said to feel that she has a rival in the rose, as it possesses, like her, a grace which is more lovely than beauty itself.

Anacreon, the poet of love, has celebrated the rose; and, perhaps, he has sung its praise more worthily than any of his successors. Moore has thus translated the Ode:—

While we invoke the wreathed spring,
Resplendent rose! to thee we'll sing;
Resplendent rose, the flower of flowers,
Whose breath perfumes Olympus' bowers;
Whose virgin blush, of chasten'd dye,
Enchants so much our mortal eye.
When pleasure's bloomy season glows,
The Graces love to twine the rose;
The rose is warm Dione's bliss,
And flushes like Dione's kiss!
Oft has the poet's magic tongue
The rose's fair luxuriance sung:

And long the Muses, heavenly maids, Have rear'd it in their tuneful shades. When, at the early glance of morn, It sleeps upon the glittering thorn, 'Tis sweet to dare the tangled fence, To cull the timid flow'ret thence, And wipe with tender hand away The tear that on its blushes lay; 'Tis sweet to hold the infant stems, Yet dropping with Aurora's gems, And fresh inhale the spicy sighs That from the weeping buds arise. When revel reigns, when mirth is high, And Bacchus beams in every eye, Our rosy fillets scent exhale, And fill with balm the fainting gale ! Oh! there is nought in nature bright, Where roses do not shed their light! When morning paints the orient skies, Her fingers burn with roseate dyes; The nymphs display the rose's charms, It mantles o'er their graceful arms; Through Cytherea's form it glows, And mingles with the living snows. The rose distils a healing balm, The beating pulse of pain to calm; Preserves the cold inurned clay, And mocks the vestige of decay; And when at length, in pale decline, Its florid beauties fade and pine, Sweet as in youth, its balmy breath Diffuses odour e'en in death! Oh! whence could such a plant have sprung? Attend - for thus the tale is sung : -When, humid, from the silvery stream, Effising beauty's warmest beam,

had been purposely prepared by the celestials to distinguish this queen of flowers."

Moore, in his Irish Melodies, gives us a poetical reason for the beauty and delicious perfume of the rose. Others, have stated that Love, in a feast of Olympus, in the midst of a light and lively dance, overthrew, with a stroke of his wing, a cup of nectar; which precious liquor, falling on the rose, embalmed it with that delightful fragrance which it still retains.

They tell us that love in his fairy bower
Had two blush roses, of birth divine;
He sprinkled the one with a rainbow's shower,
But bathed the other with mantling wine.
Soon did the buds,
That drank of the floods
Distill'd by the rainbow, decline and fade;
While those which the tide
Of ruby had dyed
All blush'd into beauty, like thee, sweet maid!

MOORE.

The rose is said to have been originally white. Catullus has accounted for its change of colour in the following beautiful lines:—

While the enamoured queen of joy
Flies to protect her lovely boy,
On whom the jealous war-god rushes;
She treads upon a thorned rose,
And, while the wound with crimson flows,
The snowy floweret feels her blood, and blushes!

BEAUTY EVER NEW.

CHINA OR MONTHLY ROSE. - ROSA SEMPERFLORENS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

This is an ever-blowing evergreen shrub, attaining frequently the height of ten feet; bearing beautiful crimson flowers from January to December. Leaves are ovate-lanceolate, crenate, serrate; ovaries, fifteen; petals, entire.

The patient beauty of the monthly rose.

H. COLERIDGE.

This plant, so frequently seen clustering round the cottage porch, as well in the immediate outskirts of busy smoky towns as in the remotest vales, was originally brought to England in 1789. It was then thought so delicate as to require the constant heat of the stove, and small cuttings were sold for several guineas each. This was soon found not to be necessary; and, in a short time, almost every country casement was ornamented by this Chinese beauty; until our cottagers, wanting means to purchase flower pots, planted them in the open ground; where, persevering in the habits of a warmer climate, they quickly surpassed, in strength and beauty, all the in-

mates of the "gardens in which art supplies the fervour and the force of Indian skies."

This is the earliest flowering rose; and in mild seasons, when planted against a wall, will sometimes flower in the beginning of April; and, being protected by glass in autumn, or aided by artificial heat, may be continued in bloom till Christmas.

BELOVED DAUGHTER.

CINQUEFOIL.13 - POTENTILLA REPTANS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

A deciduous perennial trailer, very common in meadows, pastures, on hedge-banks, and by roadsides; it is pretty, and may be found in flower from June to September. Its leaves are generally erect, on long petioles; flower stalks, longer than leaves, erect, each bearing a large solitary flower; petals, obcordate, deep yellow.

The five-Jeaved grass, mantling its golden cup
Of flowers.

CLARE.

In rainy weather the leaves of this plant incline themselves over its flowers, forming a kind of canopy or parapluie. It is gratifying to see a tender mother watching with anxious care the unfolding of a beloved daughter's mind and character.

BENEFICENCE.

POTATO. - SOLANUM TUBEROSUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — SOLANEÆ. ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A tuberous rooted agricultural perennial; bearing a white flower from June to August; imported into this country from Peru in 1597. The stem is herbaceous. Segment of leaves, unequal; the alternate ones, minute; pedicels, stalked.

THE potato is emphatically the friend of the poor. As its fruit cannot well be preserved more than one year, it escapes the monopolizing spirit of commerce. Humble and unassuming, like true charity, it hides its treasures, which alike gratify the rich and sustain the poor. America has favoured us with this valuable root, which has for ever banished from Europe that most fearful of all scourges — famine.

BIRTH.

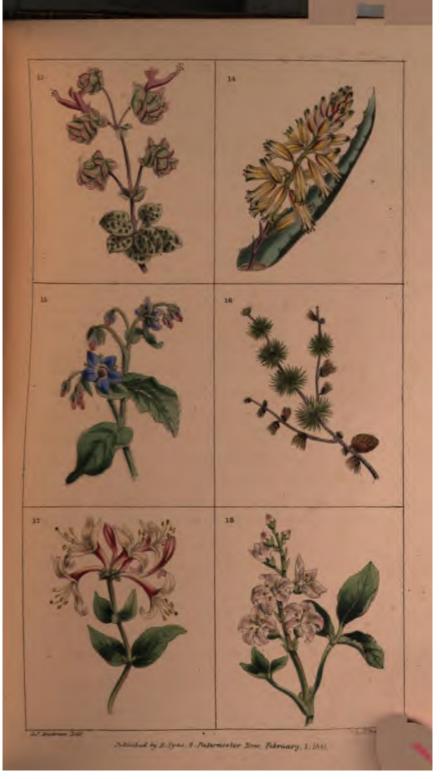
DITTANY OF CHETE.13 - ORIGANUM DICTAMNUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LABIATE.
ART. CLASS, — DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, — GYMNIOSPERMIA.

An ornamental evergreen under shrub, an inhabitant of the greenhouse, bearing pink flowers from June to August. It was introduced from Candia, in 1551. The lower leaves are downy; the spikes, nodding.

WHEN Juno presided at the birth of children, under the name of Lucina, she wore a wreath of dittany. The agreeable fragrance of this shrub, and its medicinal qualities, which rendered it so celebrated among the ancients, still procure it much esteem. It was originally introduced from Crete.

Marjoram (Origanum vulgare) is a species of this plant. It is aromatic, and, if the dried leaves be used instead of tea, it is said to be very grateful. The tops are sometimes used by country people to dye woollen cloth purple, or linen of a reddish brown colour: for this last purpose the linen is well soaked in alum and water, and then dried; it is then allowed to remain immersed for two days in a decoction of





crab-tree bark; it is then wrung out of this, boiled in a ley of ashes, and then suffered to boil in the decoction.

BITTERNESS.

ALOE.14 - ALOE SOCCOTRINA.

NAT. CLASS, --MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, --HEMEROCALLIDEE.
ART. CLASS, --HEXANDRIA; ORDER, MONOGYNIA.

A medicinal evergreen shrub, inhabiting the greenhouse, attaining the height of twelve feet, and bearing red flowers from February to April. It is a native of the Cape of Good Hope, and was introduced here in 1731. Leaves, oblong, ensiform, somewhat spotted; edges, cernuous, white, with straight spines.

The aloe is said to thrive best in the desert, and is only attached to the soil by a very slender fibre. Its taste is very sharp and bitter. So sorrow drives us away from the world, detaches our hearts from the earth, and fills them with bitterness. This plant derives its support almost entirely from the air, and assumes very singular and fantastic shapes. Le Vaillant found many species very numerous in the deserts of Namaquoise: some of them six feet long, which were

thick, and armed with long spines. From the centre of these a light twig shoots forth to the height of a tall tree, all garnished with flowers. Others exalt themselves like the cactus, bristling with thorns. Others, again, are marbled, and seem like serpents creeping upon the earth. Brydone saw the ancient city of Syracuse entirely covered by great aloes in flower; their elegant branches giving to the promontory which bounded the coast the appearance of an enchanted forest. These plants also prosper well in our gardens. The collection in the museum of Paris is said to be the most complete in the world.

These magnificent and monstrous members of the vegetable kingdom are also found in barbarous Africa. There they grow upon the rocks in arid and sandy soil, in the midst of that burning atmosphere in which scarce aught but tigers and lions can breathe and live. Let us bless Providence, then, for raising in our climate verdant bowers over our heads, and for spreading under our feet the soft carpet of grass, ornamented with saffron, violets, and daisies.

BLACKNESS.

EBONY. - DIOSPYRUS EBENUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — EBENACEE.
ART. CLASS, — POLYGAMIA; ORDER, — DICECIA.

An evergreen tree, cultivated here in the bark or moist stone. It bears a white flower; is a native of the East Indies. The leaves are ovate, lanceolate, accuminate; buds, hairy.

PLUTO, god of the infernal regions, was seated upon a throne of ebony. We say of one notoriously wicked, "that he has a heart as black as ebony." This proverb originates in the circumstance of the aubier of the ebony-tree being white, its foliage soft and silvery, its flowers beautiful and brilliant, while the heart, only, of the tree is really black.

BLUNTNESS.

BORAGE. 15 - BORAGO OFFICINALIS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - BORAGINEE.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

A culinary annual, bearing a blue flower from June to September; and is a native of England. Leaves, ovate, — the lower, stalked, — all alternate; calyx, spreading; peduncles, terminal, many flowered.

THE leaves of this plant are prickly, hairy, and rugose; but the whole plant is useful. Its

rugged appearance, which brings to mind the idea of that bluntness which often accompanies charitable bounty, is forgotten in the enjoyment of its benefits.

BOLDNESS.

LARCH.16 - LARIX.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - CONIFERÆ.
ART. CLASS, - MONŒCIA; ORDER, - MONADELPHIA.

A deciduous timber tree, attaining the height of fifty feet. It is a native of Germany. The leaves are fascicled, deciduous; cones, ovateoblong; edges of scales, reflexed lacerated; bractes, panduriform.

> The swain, in barren deserts, with surprise, Sees larch-trees spring, and sudden verdure rise.

This hardy tree grows rapidly, and thrives better in a poor soil than in rich earth; and is commonly found upon the mountain's side, where it vegetates at an immense elevation.

Within the last fifty years numerous quantities of the larch have been planted in every quarter of this island, and the demand for young trees has been so extensive that one nurseryman is said to have raised, in 1796, more than five millions. No exotic tree has ever been introduced into England which has so universally embellished the country, and that in so short a time. Its pale and delicate

green, so cheerfully enlivening the dark hue of the fir and pine, and its elegant spiral shape, contrasting with the broad spreading oak, is a no less happy contrast; whilst its stars of fasciculate foliage are displayed to additional advantage when neighbouring with the broad-leaved æsculus, the glossy holly, the drooping birch, or the tremulous aspen.

BONDS OF LOVE.

HONEYSUCKLE.17 - CAPRIFOLIUM PERICLYMENUM,

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - CAPRIFOLIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous twiner, very common in the hedge-rows of this country. It bears a shaded yellow flower from May to July, filling the air with delightful fragrance in evenings after rain. The flowers are capitate, terminal; leaves, deciduous, all distinct.

That sweet honeysuckle which
Is fair as fragrant. CARRINGTON.

The woodbine wild,
That loves to hang, on barren boughs remote,
Her wreaths of flowery perfume. Mason.

THE honeysuckle sometimes amorously attaches its pliant branches to the knotted trunk of an ancient oak, and, amid the rugged branches of that lordly tree,

The woodbines mix in amorous play, And breathe their fragrant lives away. It was said that this feeble tree, thus shooting into the air, would overtop the king of the forest: but, as if its efforts were unavailing, it soon recoiled, and with graceful negligence adorned its friendly supporter with elegant festoons and perfumed garlands.

It is a very pleasing ornament to the humble residence of the peasant,

Who rears his cot
Deep in the rural shade, and wreathes around
His lattice the rath woodbine! Carringron.

The same poet again introduces the woodbine in describing the fair landscapes of England: —

Fair is thy level landscape, England, fair
As ever nature form'd! Away it sweeps,
A wide, a smiling prospect, gay with flowers,
And waving grass, and trees of amplest growth,
And sparkling rills, and rivers winding slow
Through all the smooth immense. Upon the eye
Arise the village and the village spire,
The clustering hamlet and the peaceful cot
Clasp'd by the woodbine.

Love sometimes delights to unite a timid maid to the haughty and lofty warrior.

Unfortunate Desdemona! It was courage and strength which inspired thee with admiration! It was the consciousness of thy own weakness which attached thy affections to the formidable Othello! But jealousy led him, who should have been thy protector, to slay thee. Phillips, speaking of the disposition of this plant, says, "In the wilderness walks it should have liberty to climb the trees and hang its wreaths from branch to branch; and, where the ivy gives verdure to the bare trunk, there should the woodbine display its blossoms and shed its odours."

CALM REPOSE.

BUCKBEAN. 16 - MENYANTHES TRIFOLIATA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — GENTIANEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

One of the most elegant of our aquatic plants. The root is perennial, long and round. It is very frequent in boggy soils, and flowers in June or July. Its leaves are ternate.

By that lake, whose silvery waters reflect the cloudless sky, do you see those clusters of flowers, white as the drifted snow? The under side of those beautiful flowers is lightly tinged with a rosy hue; and a tuft of filaments, of great delicacy and of dazzling whiteness, springs from each alabaster cup. Language will not convey a just idea of the elegance of this plant; but, if once seen waving gently over the water's brink, whose transparency and freshness it seems to increase, it will never be forgotten. The flowers of the buckbean never open in stormy weather, but bloom only in calm and sunshine; and the calm which it enjoys seems to be imparted to every object around it.

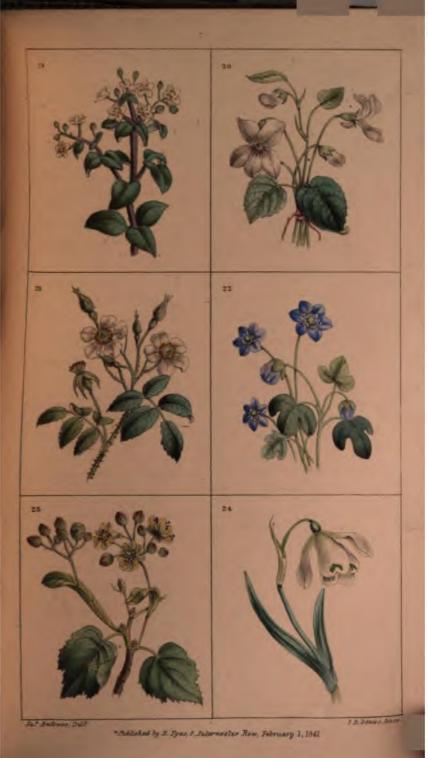
CALUMNY.

MADDER.19 - RUBIA PEREGRINA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RUBIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — TETRANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A wild deciduous trainer. It is not uncommon in many parts of England. Leaves about four in a whorl, elliptical, shining, and smooth on their upper sides; their margins, rough, with reflexed prickles, evergreen. Flowers mostly fine cleft. The root is perennial, creeping; the inner bark, red or orange coloured, having the property of dying red, like that of Rubia tinctorum, which is the true dyer's madder, but is not cultivated in this country.

A RED or scarlet dye is procured from madder, and is of very common use amongst dyers. When sheep have browsed on this plant, their teeth appear stained, as if it had been in the blood of some victim. The





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vile calumniator often takes advantage of dubious appearances to cast a stigma upon innocence itself. It has been observed that the bones of all animals feeding upon it become red, the hardest parts changing first, until the whole substance is coloured; and, "if the plant be alternately given and intermitted, the bones are found to be coloured in concentric circles."

CANDOUR.

SWEET WHITE VIOLET.20 - VIOLA ODORATA ALBA.

The white violet is merely a variety of the sweet scented purple.

Cannour precedes modesty, of which the blue violet is frequently used as the emblem. The white violet is the same flower, still clothed in the robes of innocence; and it is asserted that the violet is white until planted in a rich soil, or cultivated, when it loses its simplicity, though it becomes more fragrant. So, when mankind are thrown into close contact with the busy world, they lose their simplicity and the candour of their natural character, and put on the more pleasing, but less valuable, and often insincere, amenities of artificial life.

Sir Walter Raleigh addressed the white violets as follows:

Sweet violets, love's paradise, that spread
Your gracious odours, which you couched bear
Within your paly faces,
Upon the gentle wing of some calm-breathing wind
That plays amidst the plain!

CAPRICIOUS BEAUTY.

MUSK ROSE, 21 - ROSA MOSCHATA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

An ornamental evergreen trailer, bearing panieles of white flowers from July to October. The branchlets are nearly naked; leaflets, elliptic acuminate, glaucous beneath, with connivent serratures. Sepals, compound, acuminate.

> And each inconstant breeze that blows Steels essence from the musky rose.

This species of the rose lacks freshness. Its mean flowers would be entirely without effect if they did not grow in panicles, containing from twenty to one hundred or more. They please by their fine and musky odour, exhaled from their white blossoms in the autumnal months. It is said to be a native of Barbary,

and is found wild in the hedges and thickets of the kingdom of Tunis. This plant seems full of caprice. It languishes suddenly in situations which at first appeared to be most favourable to its growth, — one year it displays innumerable bouquets, and the next it may not flower at all.

CHASTITY.

ORANGE FLOWER .- CITRUS AURANTIUM.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - AURANTIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - POLYADELPHIA; ORDER, - POLYANDRIA.

In this country, a greenhouse fruit-tree, bearing white flowers in May and July, fruit at the same time. The petioles are nearly naked; the leaves, oval, oblong, and acute; flowers, twenty-audrous; fruit, globose, with a thin skin and sweet pulp.

Here orange-trees, with blossoms and pendants shine, And vernal honours to their autumn join; Exceed their promise in the ripen'd store, Yet in the rising blossom promise more.

POPE.

It is a custom in France for the newly-married to wear a head-dress of orange flowers. Formerly a dishonoured girl was deprived of this ornament on her wedding-day; and this usage still exists in the neighbourhood of Paris.

COLDNESS.—TO LIVE WITHOUT LOVE.

AGNUS CASTUS. - VITEX.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — VERBENACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, — ANGIOSPERMA.

An ornamental deciduous shrub, cultivated in the frame, having whorled spikes of blue and white flowers, from seven to fifteen inches long. Leaves, digitate, seven or five, lanceolate, nearly entire. Spikes, whorled panicled.

DIOSCORIDES, Pliny, and Galen, inform us that the priestesses of Ceres formed their virginal couch of the fragrant branches of the agnus castus, which is an autumnal shrub with whorled spikes of blue and white flowers, from seven to fifteen inches long. This they regarded as the palladium of their chastity. In modern times the religious orders of France drink a water distilled from its branches to dispel from their minds, when in solitude, all earthly thoughts. Many orders of monks habitually wear a knife whose haft is made of the wood of agnus castus, to fortify their hearts against external influence. In fine, this pretty shrub has been from time immemorial the emblem of coldness.

CONFIDENCE.

HEPATICA; OR NOBLE LIVERWORT.22 - HEPATICA TRILOBA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RANUNCULACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous herbaceous plant, bearing purple flowers from February to April. The root is perennial. Leaves, cordate, three-lobed; lobes, entire.

THE three lobes of the leaves of this plant have been compared to the three lobes of the liver. It is a great favourite of the flower border, both as being evergreen in its foliage, and for its abundant blossoms and great variety of colours and shades. When gardeners see its pretty flowers put forth, they say, "the earth is in love; we may sow with confidence."

CONJUGAL LOVE.

LINDEN TREE. - TILIA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — TILIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A deciduous timber-tree, growing to the height of fifty feet, and bearing a greenish yellow flower in August and September. Leaves, cordate, round, acuminate, finely serrated, smooth, scarcely longer than stalks.

BAUCIS was changed into the Linden tree, which has ever since been the emblem of conjugal love. In

glancing over the consecrated plants in the mythology of the ancients, we cannot fail to admire their fitness to represent the various qualities of which they are symbolical.

Beauty—grace—simplicity—an extreme softness of manner, and an innocent gaiety, should be, in all ages, the properties and accomplishments of a tender wife. We find all these qualities united in the Linden tree; which, in spring, is ever covered with a soft and delicate verdure, and exhales a very delightful fragrance, as Cowper sings,—

And the lime, at dewy eve Diffusing odours;

while it lavishes the honey of its flowers upon the busy

Who shall attempt to paint the effect of its beautiful foliage as it waves its branches softly under the influence of the breeze? Its young leaves seem to have been cut of softer materials than silk, and are far more brilliant. We can scarce cease to gaze upon its vast shade; nay, we could wish to be always reposing under it,—to listen to the murmurs of its branches, and breathe its delicious perfumes. The magnificent chesnut, and the slender acacia, have each disputed

the right of the Linden tree to hold a place in the public avenues and promenades; but they, and fashion united, have not succeeded in banishing it thence.

CONSOLATION.

SNOWDROP. - GALANTHUS NIVALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMARYLLIDE &.
ABT. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A very pretty dwarf plant, an universal favourite, on account of its being nearly the first flower in a new year, and the simple cultivation it needs. The root is a perennial bulb, which, being planted in the autumn, sends forth its slender stem from which the delicate white flower-buds hang pendent from January to March. The leaves are smooth. The plant is indigenous in this country.

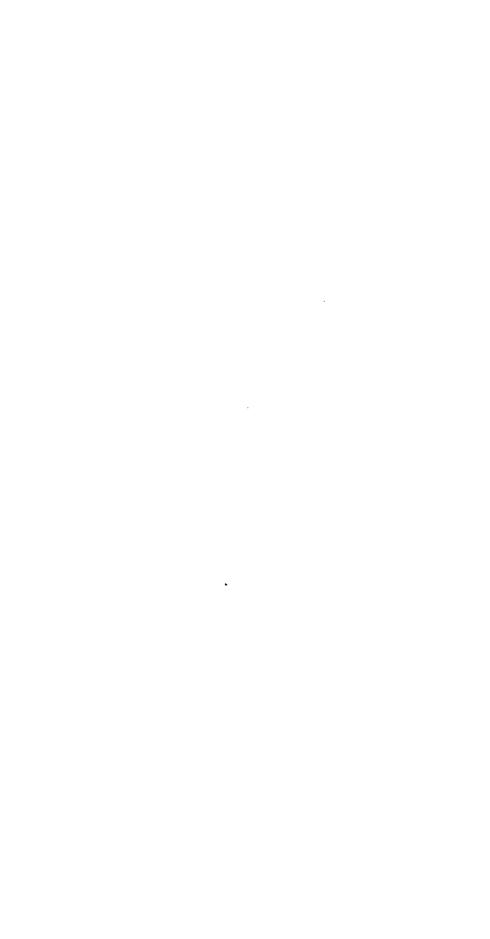
The north wind whistles, and the hoar frost clothes the verdure-despoiled trees; an uniform white carpet covers the earth, — the birds withhold their tuneful song, — and the sealed waters cease to murmur as they roll along; the rays of the sun, enfeebled by the density of our atmosphere, shed a gloomy light over our fields; and the heart of man is sad, while all nature reposes in torpid tranquillity.

Thus Madame de la Tour describes the state of nature, when suddenly a delicate flower pierces through the veil of snow which had concealed it. It has been aptly termed by her countrymen perce-neige, from the quality just named; and is with equal propriety called snow-drop in England. Wordsworth thus addresses it:—

Lone flower, hemmed in with snows, and white as they, But hardier far, once more I see thee bend
Thy forehead, as if fearful to offend,
Like an unbidden guest. Though day by day
Storms, sallying from the mountain-tops, waylay
The rising sun, and on the plains descend;
Yet art thou welcome, welcome as a friend
Whose zeal outruns his promise! Blue-eyed May
Shall soon behold this border thickly set
With bright jonquils, their odours lavishing
On the soft west wind and his frolic peers;
Nor will I then thy modest grace forget,
Chaste snowdrop, venturous harbinger of spring,
And pensive monitor of fleeting years!

This herald of spring, said to be despatched by Flora to ascertain whether the frost be mitigated, and to announce the speedy arrival of her floral favours, is also noticed by Mrs. Barbauld:—

Now the glad earth her frozen zone unbends,
And o'er her bosom breathe the western winds;
Already now the snowdrop dares appear,
The first pale blossom of th'unripened year;
As Flora's breath, by some transforming power,
Had changed an icicle into a flower:
Its name and hue the scentless plant retains,
And winter lingers in its icy veins.





CONSOLATION OF SLEEP.

POPPY. - PAPAVER SOMNIFERUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — PAPAVERACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A medicinal plant, whose native habitat is the corn-field of England. It bears a white flower in July and August. Calices and capsules, smooth; leaves, stem, clasping, cut.

Poppies which bind fast escaping sleep.

THE poppy yields a narcotic juice in considerable quantity, which is frequently administered to procure sleep and relieve pain; on this account, it has been made the symbol of consolation. The ancients, who regarded sleep as the grand physician, and the great consoler of human nature, crowned the god of sleep with a wreath of poppies. In unison with this opinion of the ancients, but perhaps unconsciously, one of our modern poets thus writes;—

——Nature's kind restorer, Balmy sleep.

CONSTANCY.

BLUE CANTERBURY BELL. - CAMPANULA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CAMPANULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A very pretty tribe of plants, generally known as Canterbury bells and blue bells. The species we have figured is Camp. Divergens, a very ornamental kind. It is an herbaceous and deciduous plant, biennial in its duration, and is propagated by seed. The stem is simple, diverging, pubescent; leaves, lanceolate, obtusely serrated, sessile, veiny; peduncles, axillary, three-flowered, and terminal.

Blue-bell! how gaily art thou drest,

How sweet and trim art thou, sweet flower;

How silky is thy azure vest,

How fresh to flaunt at morning's hour.

MRS. ROBINSON.

This beautiful flower, from the richness of its colour, has been made the emblem of constancy. It is a very ornamental border-flower, and is of easy culture. The mode of procuring the plants is from seed, which ought to be sown in the spring, and, when of a proper size, should be transplanted into another bed, and in the autumn it may be removed to the spot where it is intended to flower the succeeding year.

COQUETRY.

YELLOW DAY LILY." - HEMEROCALLIS FLAVA.

NAT. CLASS, - MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - HEMEROCALLIDEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - HEXANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental evergreen, perennial in its duration, bearing a yellow flower in June. The leaves are linear, keeled; petals, flat, acute; nerves of the petals, undivided.

THE flowers of this plant speedily fade, seldom continuing two days in bloom; for this reason it has been assigned as the emblem of coquetry.

The French call it belle d'un jour.

Aux feux dont l'air étincelle S'ouvre la belle de jour; Zephir la flatte de l'aile: La friponne encor appelle Les papillons d'alentour.

Coquettes, c'est votre emblème: Le grand jour, le bruit vous plait, Briller est votre art suprême; Sans éclat, le plaisir même Devient pour vous sans attrait.

PHILIPPON DE LA MADELEINE.

As an equivalent for the transient duration of its flowers, it displays its beauty by a continual succession of blossom, and gives out for some time a very agreeable odour: and this the more powerfully when planted in shady or moist situations.

COURAGE.

BLACK POPLAR.28 - POPULUS NIGRA.

NAT. CLASS,—DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER,—AMENTACEÆ.
ART. CLASS,—DICECIA; ORDER,—OCTANDRIA.

A timber tree, of rapid growth in moist places, or on the banks of rivers. Its timber is light and soft, fit for the turner and pattenmaker, and for flooring. It is very alow to burn, and will amoke a long time before bursting into a blaze. Leaves, deltoid acute, serrated, glabrous on both sides; fertile catkins, cylindrical, lax; stigmas, four.

The poplar is by great Alcides worn.

VIRGIL

This tree is consecrated to Hercules, who, according to the fable of the ancients, wore a crown made of its foliage when he descended into the infernal regions. This fable accounts for the different shades which the leaf has on either side, in the following manner. The leaves on the side next the head of Hercules preserved their natural colour, or, some say, received that dim and pallid hue from the moisture on his brow; while the other side, being exposed to the smoke and vapour of the dismal regions he was visiting, were tinged with a darker shade, which they still retain.

CRUELTY.

STINGING NETTLE.29 - URTICA PILULIFERA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - URTICE &.
ART. CLASS, - MONŒCIA; ORDER, - TETRANDRIA.

An annual weed, abundant in the cultivated soils of England, bearing a green flower from June to August. Leaves, opposite, ovate, or somewhat heart-shaped, deeply serrated; heads of fruit, globose.

The sting of the nettle causes a pain as violent as that produced by a burn. On examining the plants with a microscope, we observe the "projecting bristles, or prickles, with which they are covered, are tubular, and stand on a bag filled with a poisonous juice; they are perforated at the point, and, when they are gently pressed vertically, the pressure at once forces the poison to ascend the tube, and enables the point to lodge it in the skin." Its generic name, *Urtica*, is formed from uro, to burn, in allusion to its stinging properties.

O'er the throng, Urtica flings Her barbed shafts, and darts her poisoned stings.

DARWIN.

DECLARATION OF LOVE.

TULIP." - TULIPA STLVESTRIS.

NAT. CLASS, -- MONOCOTTLEDONES; ORDER, -- LILIACEE-ART. CLASS, -- HEXANDRIA; ORDER, -- MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental bulbous perennial, bearing a yellow flower in April and May, common in the chalk-pits of England. Stem, one-flowered, smooth; flower, nodding; petals, acute, bearded at end; leaves, lanceolate.

Then comes the tulip race, where beauty plays Her idle freaks; from family diffused To family, as flies the father dust, The varied colours run; and, while they break On the charmed eye, the exulting florist marks, With secret pride, the wonders of his hand.

THOMSON.

On the banks of the Bosphorus the tulip is the emblem of inconstancy; but it is also the symbol of the most violent love. The wild tulip is found in the fields of Byzantium, with its crimson petals and golden heart. The petals are compared to fire, and the yellow heart to brimstone; and, when presented by an admiring swain to his mistress, it is supposed to declare that such is the effect of the fair one's beauty that, if he sees her only for a moment, his face will be as fire, and his heart will be reduced to a coal.

The tulip was called tulipan, or turban, from the

similarity of its corolla to the superb head-dress of the barbarous Turks, who almost worshipped its elegant stem and the beautiful vase-like flower which surmounts it. They never ceased to admire the gorgeous hues of gold and silver, of purple, lilac, and violet, of deep crimson and delicate rose-colour, with every possible variety of tint, which are harmoniously blended together, and spread over the rich petals of this splendid member of the court of Flora. The resemblance its shape bears to the turban is thus alluded to in Lalla Rookh:—

What triumph crowds the rich divan to-day, With turbaned heads of every hue and race, Bowing before that veiled and awful face, Like tulip beds, of different shape and dyes, Bending beneath the invisible west wind's sighs.

Formerly a feast of tulips was celebrated in the seraglio of the Grand Seignior. Long galleries were erected, with raised seats, covered with the richest tapestry, presenting the appearance of an amphitheatre. On these were placed an almost infinite number of crystal vases, filled with the most beautiful tulips the world produced. In the evening the scene was splendidly illuminated; the wax tapers, as they gave light, emitted the most exquisite odours. To these were added lamps of the most brilliant colours, forming on all sides garlands of opal, emeralds, sapphires, diamonds, and rubies. Innumerable singing-birds, in cages of gold, roused by the splendour of the scene, mingled their warbling notes with the melodious harmony of instruments whose chords were tuned by invisible musicians. Showers of rose-water refreshed the air; and suddenly the doors were opened, and a number of young odalisks entered to blend the brilliancy of their charms and appearance with that of the enchanted scene.

In the centre of the seraglio a splendid pavilion shaded the Grand Seignior, who negligently reclined on costly skins; while the lords of his court, habited in their richest attire, were seated at his feet, to behold the dances of the lovely women of the court in all the luxurious display of their light and dazzling dresses. These sometimes encircled, and at others glided round, the vases of tulips whose beauty they sung. It was not seldom that a cloud rested on the sultan's brow; then he looked upon all around with a stern and severe aspect. What! could chagrin then enter the soul of that all-powerful mortal? Had he lost one of his provinces? Did he fear the revolt of his fierce janissaries? Ah no! two poor slaves alone had troubled

his heart. He had observed, during the gaieties of the feast, a young page presenting a tulip to a beautiful girl who had captivated him. The sultan was ignorant of their secrets, but a vague feeling of inquietude took possession of his heart—jealousy tormented and beset him. But what is the jealousy of a sultan, or what are bolts and bars, against love? A look and a flower are enough for that wicked god to change a horrid seraglio into a place of delight, and to avenge beauty outraged by chains.

Tulips have had their worshippers in other parts of the world besides Turkey. It was from 1644 to 1647 that the tulipomania exercised its influence in Holland. In those years tulips fetched enormous prices and enriched many speculators. The most precious kind was that called semper augustus; this they valued at 2,000 florins. They pretended that it was so rare that there existed only two flowers of that species, one at Haarlem, and the other at Amsterdam. A connoisseur, to procure one root, offered 4,600 florins, with a beautiful carriage, horses, and equipments. Another gave twelve acres of land for a tulip root. We are also told of a person who had a very fine tulip; but, finding that there was a second root of the same nature at Haarlem, he

repaired thither, and, having purchased it at a most extravagant cost, pounded it to pieces with his foot, exclaiming with exultation, "Now my tulip is unique!"

DELICACY.

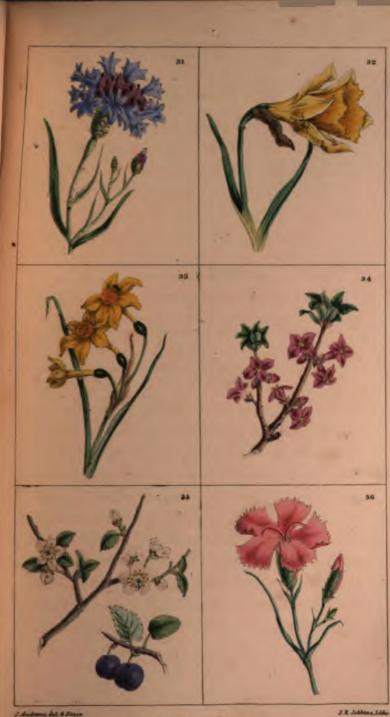
BLUE-BOTTLE CENTAURY.31 - CENTAUREA CYANUS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - COMPOSITÆ.

ART. CLASS, - SYNGENESIA; ORDER, - FRUSTRANEA.

An ornamental annual, bearing a handsome blue flower from June to August; common in the corn-fields of Britain. The scales of the involucre are serrated; leaves, linear, entire; the lowermost, toothed.

The beautiful blue of this flower, which is of the colour of an unclouded sky, has made it the emblem of a tender and delicate sentiment, nourished by hope. According to ancient fable, this plant was called Cyanus after a youth of that name, whose attachment to cornflowers was so strong that he employed his time chiefly in making garlands of them, seldom leaving the fields so long as his favourite flower was to be found, and always dressing himself in the fine blue colour of the flower he so much admired. Flora was his goddess; and, of all her gifts, this was the one he most admired.



had by R. Byes, S. Paternoster Bow, April, 1, 1841.



At last the youth was found dead in a corn-field, in the midst of a quantity of blue-bottles he had gathered. Soon after, Flora transformed his body into this flower, in token of the veneration he had for her divinity.

DECEITFUL CHARMS.

THORN APPLE. - DATURA FASTUOSA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - SOLANEE.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental annual, bearing a flower in July and September, of a beautiful purple colour outside, and a satiny white within. The leaves are ovate, angular; pericarps, tuberculated, nodding.

Too often, inflamed by luxury, an indolent beauty languishes all the day, and avoids the cheering light of the sun. At night, arrayed in all her charms, she exhibits herself to her lovers. The glaring and uncertain light of candles, accomplice of her artifices, lends her a delusive brilliancy. She attracts and enchants by her appearance, but her heart is insensible to love. Fly, imprudent youth; fly at the approach of this enchantress! Nature teaches us how to love and how to please; art is unnecessary here. Those who employ it are always perfidious and dangerous.

The flowers of the datura, like the nocturnal beauties just named, languish beneath their sombre and drooping foliage while the sun shines; but at the approach of night they put forth, and are reanimated. Then they display their charms, and unfold those immense bell-shaped petals which nature has formed of ivory and stained with purple, and to which she has confided a perfume that attracts and invigorates, but is so dangerous, that it produces ebriety and hysterics, even in the open air, on those who respire it.

DELUSIVE HOPE.

DAFFODIL.32 - PSEUDO-NARCISSUS.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMARYLLIDEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental bulbous perennial, bearing a pale yellow flower in March and April; common in the woods of England. Scape, two-edged, straight striated; segments, sulphur; crown, yellow, with serrate crenate orifice.

When early primroses appear,

And vales are deck'd with daffodils,

I hail the new reviving year,

And soothing hope my bosom fills.

WILLIAMS.

THE flowers of this plant very often fail. It is a native of our meadows, but is cultivated with great care in

Holland, and returned to us under the name of Phœnix, or Soleil d'Or. After tending the forced plant with much care, we are surprised to find that we possess in it nothing better than the false narcissus.

DESIRE.

JONQUIL.33 - NARCISSUS JONQUILEA.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMARYLLIDEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

This ornamental plant bears a yellow flower in April and May. It has a perennial bulbous root. The spathe is one or three flowered; segments, reflexed, spatulate; cup, much shorter than segments, saucer-shaped, spreading, crenate.

Nor gradual bloom is wanting, Nor hyacinths of purest virgin white, Low bent and blushing inward; nor jonquils, Of potent fragrance.

THOMSON.

This species of narcissus is distinguished from others by its rush-like foliage; hence its name, derived from juncus, rushy. It is more fragrant than any other species of the plant, and is frequently found too strong for moderate-sized rooms. It flowers well in water, is of great beauty, and very popular.

DESIRE TO PLEASE.

MEZEREON.36 - DAPHNE MEZEREUM.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - THYMELEE.
ART. CLASS, - OCTANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

A medicinal shrub, deciduous in its habit, bearing a purplish pink flower from February to April; common in English woods. Flowers, sessile; three on the stem; leaves, lanceolate, deciduous.

> Thou hast thy wish; all love to see Thy simple bloom, Mezereon tree! The thrush its sweetest minstrelsy Is pouring forth to welcome thee; Thy store of sweets, the early bee Hath sought with ready industry; And, prizing much thy beauty, we Are come to greet thee joyously.

Long shalt thou hold thy gentle sway;
For when thy wreaths must fade away
Beneath the summer's scorching ray,
Thy stems shall glow in vesture gay
With scarlet berries, rich array.
Please then, fair plant, through many a day,
Till winter stern thy doom shall say,
Whose voice the fairest must obey.

BOUQUET DES SOUVENIRS.

Though leafless, well attired, and thick beset
With blushing wreaths, investing every spray.

The stem of this plant is covered with a dry bark, which gives it the appearance of dead wood. To hide this, nature has surrounded each of its branches with a garland of purple flowers, which, unrolled in spiral form, and tipped with a small tuft of leaves, seems to assume the form of a pine-apple.

This fragrant and much-admired shrubbery plant frequently flourishes towards the end of January, appearing as it were in the breast of snows, reclad in its charming attire. It is regarded as the emblem of an imprudent and coquettish nymph, who, in the midst of winter, arrays herself in the robes of spring.

The mezereon holds its flowers for some time, not often fading until the delicate petals of the almond have arrived, which also blooms on leafless branches.

"The fruit of the mezereon is a berry of a red colour, that is exceedingly ornamental in June and July, but whose qualities are of a more deadly poison than the arts of the coquette, whose injuries are seldom mortal." The whole plant is extremely acrid, especially when fresh; and, if retained in the mouth, excite great heat and inflammation.

DESPAIR.

CYPRESS AND MARIGOLD.

Having given an account of the cypress-tree under Mourning, and of marigold under Inquietude, we shall not enter into any description of them here. Suffice it, that the two united have been made the emblem of despair.

DIFFICULTY.

BLACKTHORN.35-PRUNUS SPINOSA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental shrub, bearing a white flower in March and April; common in the hedges in Britain. Peduncles, solitary; leaves, elliptical, lanceolate, pubescent beneath; branches, spiny.

This species of the plum-tree, from its colour, and from the innumerable thorns which it possesses, has been made the emblem of difficulty. In France, they have a proverb to convey the idea of a difficulty, which compares it to a bundle of thorns.





DIGNITY.

CLOVE PINK. 36 - DIANTHUS CARYOPHYLLUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CARYOPHYLLEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DECANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

An evergreen herbaceous plant, ornamental, perennial in its duration, bearing a flesh-coloured flower from June to August; found on walls in this country. Stem, branched; flowers, solitary; scales, very short, ovate; petals, very broad, beardless; leaves, linear, subulate, channelled, glaucous.

THE aromatic clove came originally from the Molucca Islands; the inhabitants of those islands wear its flowers as a mark of distinction. They say that a chief has two, three, or four cloves, as we say of a distinguished nobleman, that he has many titles, or possesses several honours.

DISCRETION, SECRECY.

MAIDEN HAIR. 37 - ADIANTIUM.

NAT. CLASS, — FOLIACEÆ; ORDER, — FILICES.
ART.CLASS, — CRYPTOGAMIA; ORDER, — FILICES POLYPODIACEÆ.

An elegant herbaceous plant, perennial in its duration, and deciduous in its habit. Found on rocks in Britain. Frond, alternately decompound; pinnules, stalked, cuneiform, lobed.

BOTANISTS have in vain sought to find out the nature of this plant, which seems determined to conceal from their learned researches the secret of its flowers and its fruit. It confides to zephyr alone the invisible germs of its young family. The Creator of all things selects the cradle for her children; and it pleases him sometimes to form a sombre veil with their waving tresses, which ever conceals from vulgar gaze the cave where the solitary naiad sleeps, and where she has slept from the beginning of ages; at other times they are borne on the wings of the winds to the summits of lofty towers, or the tottering remnant of an old chateau, where they shine like verdant stars; and sometimes, disposed in light festoons, they adorn the retired and shady spots which shepherds love. Thus this wild plant is not to be understood by science, but hides its secret origin from our curious inquiries. It is the prettiest of all ferns; and Pliny states that though you plunge it in water it will still remain dry.

DISDAIN.

YELLOW CARNATION. - DIANTHUS CARYOPHYLLUS.

This is only a variety of the clove pink just described.

We hope that disdain is as scarce among our countrywomen as the yellow carnation is in our native land. As disdainful people generally exact homage, and possess little amiability; so, with this plant, it is the least beautiful and fragrant of its kind, yet requires continual care and attention.

DISSENSION, RUPTURE.

A BROKEN STRAW.

THE custom of breaking a straw, to express that treaties are broken, may be traced to the first days of monarchy; it may even be said to be of royal origin.

The old chroniclers relate that, in 922, Charles the Simple, seeing himself abandoned by the principal lords of his court, had the imprudence to convoke an assembly at the Champ-de-Mai, at Soissons. He sought his friends there, but found only a factious crew,

whose audacity was increased by his weakness. Some reproached him with indolence, with his prodigalities, and his blind confidence in his minister Haganon; others were angry for the dishonour of his concessions to Raoul, chief of the Normans. Surrounded by their foul sedition, he prayed, promised, and thought to escape by the display of new weaknesses, but in vain. When they saw him without moral courage, their audacity had no bounds; they even declared that he ceased to be their king. At these words, which they pronounced with every sign of violence, accompanied by menaces, they advanced to the foot of the throne, broke some straws which they held in their hands, threw them roughly on the ground, and retired, after expressing by this action that they broke treaty with him.

This example is the most ancient of its kind that we know; but it proves that for a long time this mode of breaking an oath had been in use, since the vassals did not think it necessary to add a single word of explanation, as they felt sure of being understood.

DISGUISE.

COMMON STRAMONIUM.36 - DATURA STRAMONIUM.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - SOLANEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

An annual, bearing a white flower from July to September; common on rubbish heaps in England. Leaves, ovate, smooth, angular, toothed; pericarp, prickly.

This plant is of a very dangerous nature, though it clothes itself with an elegant indented foliage, and garnishes its branches with corollas of a graceful and negligent shape so purely white that it lulls suspicion of its true character to rest. Its charms only allure, that its powerful narcotic poison may more easily destroy. Several instances of its baneful effects upon persons who have endeavoured to chew it are on record. Only a few years back, a child who had amused herself with this poisonous plant was so affected as to be in the greatest danger, from which she was rescued only by the prompt assistance of a medical practitioner. It is therefore necessary to caution children against its malevolent nature.

DOCILITY.

RUSH.39 - JUNCUS CONGLOMERATUS.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — JUNCEE.
ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A useful evergreen herbaceous plant, perennial in its duration; common in moist places in this country. Culm, upright; panicle, lateral, globose; capsule, retuse; flowers, triandrous.

The custom of strewing floors with rushes is a very ancient one in England, and still prevails in particular places. At Ambleside, in Westmoreland, the ancient ceremony of strewing the church floor is still preserved, though we believe that there, as in most other churches, the plaited mat has superseded the permanent use of strewn rushes. This ceremony is called rush-bearing; and the day on which the festival is held is marked as a holiday in the rustic calendar.

Norwich cathedral is still strewed with rushes on the mayor's day; and this custom is also continued at Rochdale, at Wharton, and several other places in the kingdom.

It is a proverbial saying, "as supple as a rush."

DO ME JUSTICE.

CHESNUT TREE.40 - CASTANEA VESCA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMENTACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, — POLYANDRIA.

A fimber-tree, attaining the height of fifty feet in our woods, having a green flower in May and June. Leaves, oblong, lanceolate, accuminate, mucronate, serrate, glabrous on each side.

Thanks to Benevolus,—he spares me yet
These chesnuts ranged in corresponding lines.
COWPER.

CHESNUTS are enclosed two, three, or four, in one husk or shell, covered with prickles. Those who are unacquainted with this beautiful tree neglect its fruit in consequence of its rough appearance.

DURABILITY.

CORNELIAN CHERRY-TREE, 41 - CORNUS SANGUINEA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CAPRIFOLIÆ.

ART. CLASS, — TETRANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous shrub, bearing a white flower in June and July; common in woods in Britain. Branches, upright; leaves, ovate, whole-coloured; cymes, depressed, flat; flowers, in naked cymes.

> A huntress issuing from the wood, Reclining on her cornel spear she stood.

DRYDEN.

THE cornel-tree does not grow higher than eighteen

or twenty feet. It lives for ages, but grows very slowly; it blooms in the spring, and yields its crimson berries in the winter. They are a very handsome fruit, and were formerly made into tarts and robs de cornis. Greeks have consecrated this tree to Apollo, because it is supposed that that god presides over the works of the mind, which demand much time and reflection. Charming emblem! teaching every one who wishes to cultivate letters, eloquence, and poetry, that, to merit the laurel crown, it is necessary to bear for a long time that of patience and meditation. After Romulus had drawn the plan of Rome on the land which gave him birth, he launched his javelin on Mount Palatine; the shaft of the javelin is said to have been of cornel-tree; it took root, grew, and became an immense tree; and this prodigy was regarded as the happy presage of the strength and duration of that extraordinary empire.

The wood is very hard, and Evelyn says that when made into wedges it will last like iron.

EARLY YOUTH.

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PRIMROSE.42 - PRIMULA VULGARIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — PRIMULACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An evergreen herbaceous plant, perennial in its duration, highly ornamental, bearing a pale yellow flower from March to May; common in the woods and on hedge-banks in Great Britain. The leaves are obovate, toothed, rugose, villous beneath; umbel, radical; flower stalks as long as leaves; corolla, flat.

No smiling knot
Of early primroses, upon the warm,
Luxuriant, southern bank appears, unmarked
By him.
CARRINGTON.

Amid the sunny luxury of grass,

Are tufts of pale-eyed primroses, entwined

With many a bright-hued flower, and shrub that scents

The all-voluptuous air.

CARRINGTON.

The saffron tufts of the primrose announce the return of spring, when we see the snowy mantle of retiring winter ornamented with embroidery of verdure and of flowers. The season of hoar-frost has passed, but the bright days of summer have not yet arrived. The period is emblematical of a lovely girl just passing from childhood to youth. The timid Aglae has scarce attained her fifteenth year, and would fain join the romping games of her younger companions, but is unable

to do so. She watches them, and her heart burns to follow them. But a distaste for innocent joys, which she cannot vanquish, disturbs the heart of this young beauty. An interesting paleness is spread over her face, her heart languishes, and she sighs, scarce knowing why. She has been told that, as spring succeeds to winter, so the pleasures of love follow those of infancy. Poor girl! you will learn that those pleasures are mingled with bitterness and tears. The arrival of the primrose announces them to thee today; but it also tells thee that the happy period of infancy can never return. Alas! in a few years you will say, when observing the early primrose, "The days of love and of youth are fled, never to return."

—— In dewy glades

The peering primrose, like sudden gladness,

Gleams on the soul—yet unregarded fades—

The joy is ours, but all its own the sadness.

H. COLERIDGE.

This plant has been sung by many of our best poets, but by none so well as he from whose delightful poems we have already quoted at the commencement of this article. The following lines are extracted from a piece addressed to a friend with an early primrose:—

Accept this primrose, friend; it is a pledge
Of the returning spring. What, though the wind —
The dread east wind, pass'd o'er the shivering earth,
And shook from his deep rustling wings the snows,
And bound the streamlets and the rivers all
In crystal fetters! What, though infancy,
And age, and vigorous manhood, felt the blast
Before which many a human blossom fell!
Yet our fine Devon, in a sunny nook,
Cherish'd this flower: and, when the soft west wind
Came with its balmy breath and gentle showers,
With simple grace this first-born of the year
Waved its pale yellow star; and, lo! for thee
I plucked the welcome stranger.

Sometimes, alas! we see a lady matured in years, whose beauty has been marred by the ravages of time, decking herself in the gay habiliments of youth; such an one may be compared to the primrose in autumn, whose untimely presence is reproved in the following agreeable sonnet. It is by R. F. Housman, and was originally published in the Athenæum:—

The solitary primrose hath come back

To haunt the green nooks of her happy spring.

Alas! it is a melancholy thing,

Thus to return, and vainly strive to track

The playmates of our youth! Whither have fled

The sweet companions of her vernal hours?

The bee, the infant leaves, the golden flowers,

That heard the cuckoo's music as he sped

O'er hill and dale — whither have they departed?

And the blithe birds—have they too passed away?
All save the darkling wren, whose plaintive lay
Just tells, the hermitess is broken-hearted.
Go then, pale flower, and hide thy drooping head,
For all thy spring-time friends are changed, or dead-

EGOTISM.

POET'S NARCISSUS.43 - NARCISSUS POETICUS.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMARYLLIDEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental bulbous plant, having a perennial root, bearing a white flower in May. Segments, reflexed, imbricate at base; cup, expanded, flat; three anthers, shorter than the tube; leaves, erect, narrow.

Narcissus fair
As o'er the fabled fountain hanging still.

THE poet's narcissus exhales a very agreeable perfume; it bears a golden crown in the centre of its pure white petals, which expand quite flat, the stem slightly inclining to one side. The cup or nectary in the centre, which is very short, is frequently bordered with a bright purple circle, and sometimes the nectary is edged with crimson.

Ovid, in his Metamorphoses, tells us of the fate of the lovely and coy Narcissus. A thousand nymphs



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loved the handsome youth, but suffered the pangs of unrequited love. Viewing himself in the crystal fount, he became enamoured of his own image.

Narcissus on the grassy verdure lies;
But, whilst within the crystal font he tries
To quench his heat, he feels new heats arise;
For, as his own bright image he surveyed,
He fell in love with the fantastic shade;
And o'er the fair resemblance hung unmoved,
Nor knew, fond youth! it was himself he loved.

OVID.

In consequence of this error he slighted the love of Echo, who witnessed his fruitless vows to the deceitful image. Addison thus translates the passage:—

She saw him in his present misery
Whom, spite of all her wrongs, she grieved to see;
She answered sadly to the lover's moan,
Sighed back his sighs, and groaned to every groan;
"Ah, youth! beloved in vain," Narcissus cries—
"Ah, youth! beloved in vain," the Nymph replies.

"Farewell," says he; the parting sound scarce fell From his faint lips, but she replied, "Farewell." Then on the wholesome earth he gasping lies, Till death shuts up those self-admiring eyes. To the cold shades his flitting ghost retires, And in the Stygian waves itself admires.

For him the Naiads and the Dryads mourn, Whom the sad Echo answers in her turn! And now the sister-nymphs prepare his urn; When, looking for his corpse, they only found A rising stalk with yellow blossoms crowned.

ELEGANCE.

ROSE ACACIA.44 - ROBINIA HISPIDA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LEGUMINOSÆ.

ART. CLASS, — DIADELPHIA; ORDER, — DECANDRIA.

An ornamental shrub, deciduous in its habit, bearing a pink flower from May to September. Its racemes are axillary; the leaves are primate, with an odd one; stem, hispid.

ART has produced nothing that may vie in freshness and in elegance of appearance with this beautiful flowering shrub; its inclining branches,—the gaiety of its verdure,—its clusters of rose-coloured flowers, like bows of ribands, hung on branches clothed with hairs of a reddish brown, never fail to excite admiration, and have combined to render it a proper emblem of elegance. Its appearance has been compared to that of an elegant female in her ball dress.

ELEVATION.

SILVER FIR-TREE.45 - PINUS PICEA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CONIFERE.
ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, — MONADELPHIA.

An evergreen timber-tree. Flowers, apetalous; leaves, solitary, glaucous beneath, emarginate; cones, ovate, oblong, erect; bractes, oblong, reflexed, emarginate.

> Towering firs in conic forms arise, And with a pointed spear divide the skies.

> > PRIOR.

THE fir-tree rears its head upon the loftiest mountains, and in the coldest regions of the earth, without the aid of man. The resinous juices of this tree defy the rigorous frost to congeal its sap, while its filiform leaves are well adapted to resist the impetuous winds, which beat with violence on the lofty situations where fir-trees are found.

ELOQUENCE.

WATER LILY.46 - NYMPHÆA ALBA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, --NYMPHÆACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, —POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An aquatic plant, ornamental, perennial in its duration; its large white flower floating on the surface of rivers or lakes in June and July. The leaves are cordate, entire; lobes, imbricated, round; calyx, fourleaved.

THE Egyptians have consecrated to the sun, the god of eloquence, the flower of the Nymphæa Lotus. This flower closes at evening, and reclines on the bosom of the lake, from the setting of the sun until the rising of that splendid orb on the succeeding morn. Flowers of the lotus are inwoven in the head-dress of Osiris. The Indian gods also are frequently represented on the waters as seated on this flower! It is supposed that this allegory may be understood as an allusion to the fable of the world rising from the midst of the waters.

ENCHANTMENT.

VERVAIN.47 - VERBENA OFFICINALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — VERBENACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, — ANGIOSPERMA.

A deciduous herbaceous plant, perennial, unattractive in its appearance, bearing a purple flower from June to September. Spikes, filiform, panicled; leaves, multified, cut; stems, numerous.

> She night-shade strews to work him ill, Therewith the vervain and her dill, That hindereth witches of their will.

> > DRAYTON.

Ir were well if botanists would attach a moral idea to every plant they describe: we might then have a universal dictionary of the Sentiment of Flowers—generally understood,—which would be handed down from age to age, and might be renewed, without changing their characters, every succeeding spring.

The altars of Jupiter are overthrown; those ancient forests that witnessed the mysteries of Druidism exist no longer; and the pyramids of Egypt shall one day disappear, buried, like the sphinx, in the sands of the desert: but the lotus and the acanthus shall ever flower upon the banks of the Nile, the mistletoe will

always flourish upon the oak, and the vervain upon the barren knolls.

Vervain was used by the ancients for divers kinds of divinations; they attributed to it a thousand properties; among others, that of reconciling enemies; and, when the Roman heralds at arms were despatched with a message of peace or war to other nations, they wore a wreath of vervain. Drayton alludes to this custom:—

A wreath of vervain heralds wear, Amongst our garlands named, Being sent that dreadful news to bear, Offensive war proclaimed.

Sir Walter Scott puts the following words into the mouth of Meg Merrilies, in his Romance of Guy Mannering: —

> Trefoil, vervain, John's-wort, dill, Hinders witches of their will; Weel is them, that weel may Fast upon St. Andrew's day.

Saint Bride and her brat, Saint Colme and his cat, Saint Michael and his spear, Keep the house frae reif and wear.

The Druids held this plant in great veneration, and, before gathering it, they made a sacrifice to the earth. Probably they used it for food; and Dryden thus mentions it:-

> Some scattering pot-herbs here and there he found, Which, cultivated with his daily care, And bruised with vervain, were his daily fare.

We are told that the worshippers of the sun, in performing their services, held branches of vervain in their hands. Venus Victorious wore a crown of myrtle interwoven with vervain, and the Germans to this day give a hat of vervain to the new-married bride, as putting her under the protection of that goddess. Pliny also tells us that it was made use of by the Druids in casting lots, in drawing omens, and in other magical arts.

ENTERTAINMENT, FEASTING.

PARSLEY .- APIUM PETROSELINUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — UMBELLIFERÆ.

ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

A fusiform-rooted plant, which is biennial, cultivated for culinary purposes; bearing light yellow flowers in umbels in June and July; cauline leaves, linear, with minute involucres.

Let parsley spread Its living verdure o'er the feast.

Horace.

PARSLEY was in great reputation among the Greeks.

ERROR.

BEE OPHRYS. 49 - OPHRYS APIFERA.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ORCHIDEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — GYNANDRIA; ORDER, — MONANDRIA.

A tuberous rooted perennial plant; elegant in its appearance. Found in chalky pastures in England, and bearing a purple flower in June and July. Lip, trifid; middle lobe largest, half trifid; middle segment, longest, subulate, deflexed.

This plant is singularly beautiful in its appearance, and its flowers so much resemble the bee, that it is frequently mistaken for one resting on the plant. It commonly grows near woods, and in the open meadows. The most successful method of cultivation is by choosing a soil and situation as natural to them as possible, and by suffering the grass to grow around them.

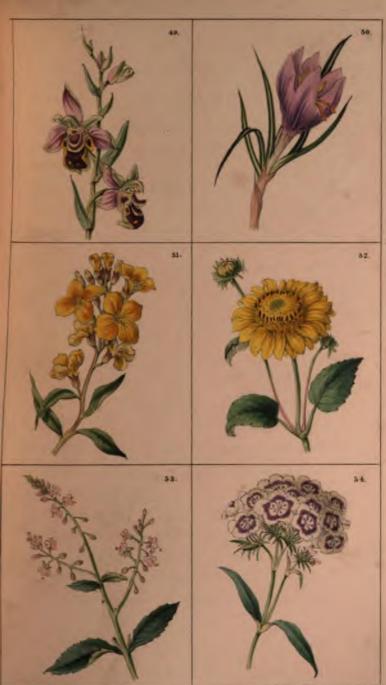
ESTEEM.

SAGE, - SALVIA OFFICINALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LABIATÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A deciduous undershrub, cultivated as a pot-herb, and occasionally used for medicinal purposes. It bears a red crimson flower in June and July. The leaves are lanceolate, ovate, crenulate; whorls, fewflowered; calyx, mucronate, longer than bractes.

This plant derives its scientific name from salvere, to



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save, from its supposed powers of healing. The genus, which is very large, consists of herbs whose leaves are generally of a rugose appearance, and of a very aromatic smell. In debility of the stomach it is used as a tonic by the Chinese, who consider that it has the effect of strengthening the nervous system; and it is said for these purposes they prefer it to their own tea.

EXCESS IS DANGEROUS.

SAFFRON.50 - CROCUS SATIVUS.

NAT. CLASS, - MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - IRIDEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - TRIANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental perennial bulbous plant, bearing a violet-coloured flower in September and October. Stigmas, very long, reflexed, crenate at the end.

A slight infusion of saffron is agreeably stimulating; but if taken in excess it produces madness. It is said to have been brought to England in the reign of Edward III., and introduced to Walden in Essex, from which that town derives its prænomen. It was cultivated there, and in the counties of Cambridge, Suffolk, and Hertfordshire, in the early part of the seventeenth century. It is now, however, cultivated

only in Essex. The flowers are gathered in September; the yellow stigmas and part of the style taken out, and dried on a kiln between layers of paper, under the pressure of a thick board, to form the mass into cakes.

FALSEHOOD.

MANCHINEEL-TREE. - HIPPOMANE MANCINELLA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — EUPHORBIACE E. ART. CLASS, — MONGECIA; ORDER, — MONADELPHIA.

An evergreen timber-tree, cultivated in this country in the bark stove, a native of the West Indies. Leaves, ovate, serrated.

THE fruit of this tree is of the colour and size of the golden pippin. Its beautiful appearance has tempted many Europeans to eat of it, who have lost their lives in consequence. The tree grows to the size of an oak, and its wood is considered very valuable, being capable of a high polish, and wearing well. In cutting them down, the juice of the bark is generally burnt out before the work is begun, as it will raise blisters on the skin, and burn holes in linen; and the labourers would be in danger of losing their sight, if it were to fly into their eyes. Vegetables are said not to grow

under its shade, nor cattle to eat of its foliage; except the goat, which may eat it without sustaining injury.

FIDELITY IN ADVERSITY.

WALL-FLOWER.51 --- CHEIRANTHUS FRUTICULOSUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CRUCIFERÆ.
ART. CLASS, — TETRADYNAMIA.

An ornamental evergreen undershrub, common on old walls in Britain, bearing a yellow flower from April to July. Leaves, lanceolate, entire; hairs, two-parted, appressed, or none; pods, linear; stigmas, with recurved lobes.

The rude stone fence, with wall-flowers gay,
To me more pleasure yield,
Than all the pomp imperial domes display.

SCOTT

This favourite flower of the cottage garden loves to grow in the crevices of old walls; to flourish in those of ruined towers, or ornament the mouldering tablet which records the names of those now almost forgotten by surviving relatives.

For this obedient zephyrs bear

Her light seeds round you turret's mould,
And, undispersed by tempest, there

They rise in vegetable gold.

LANGHORNE.

Not seldom do we observe a solitary wall-flower growing in the falling towers of an ancient castle, where it seems to place itself to conceal the unheeded injuries which the barbarians of feudal ages had recklessly done to the battlemented pile. Scott says,

And well the lonely infant knew
Recesses where the wall-flower grew,
And honeysuckle loved to crawl
Up the low crag and ruined wall.
I deemed such nooks the sweetest shade
The sun in all his round surveyed.

We are told that the minstrels and troubadours of former days carried a branch of wall-flower as the emblem of an affection which continues through all the vicissitudes of time, and survives every misfortune. During the reign of terror in France, the violent populace precipitated themselves towards the abbey of St. Denis, to disinter the ashes of their kings and scatter them to the winds. The barbarians, after breaking open the sacred tombs, were affrighted at the sacrilege, and went and hid their spoil in an obscure corner behind the choir of the church, where they were forgotten amid the horrors of the revolution. The poet, Treneuil, some time after visited the spot, and

found the sculptured fragments covered with the wall-flower. This plant, faithful in misfortune, diffused sweet perfumes in that religious receptacle, whice might be likened to an offering of incense ascending towards heaven. This scene produced the following lines from the inspired poet's pen:—

Mais quelle est cette fleur que son instinct pieux Sur l'aîle du zéphyr amène dans ces lieux? Quoi! tu quittes le temple oû vivent tes racines, Sensible giroflèe, amante des ruines, Et ton tribut fidèle accompagne nos rois? Ah! puisque la terreur a courbé sous ses lois Du lis infortuné la tige souveraine, Que nos jardins en dueil te choisissent pour reine; Triomphe sans rîvale, et que ta sainte fleur Croisse pour le tombeau, le trône, et le malheur.

FALSE RICHES.

SUN-FLOWER, 52 - HELIANTHUS MULTIFLORUS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - COMPOSITÆ.
ART. CLASS, - SYNGENESIA; ORDER, - FRUSTRANEA.

A deciduous herbaceous plant, ornamental, perennial. Flowering from August to October. Leaves, three-nerved, scabrous; lower, cordate; upper, ovate; ray, many flowered; scales of involucre, lanceolate.

THE helianthus, or sun-flower, was originally brought from Peru, where its flowers were used by the ancient Peruvians, worshippers of the god of day, doubtless, on account of its supposed habit of turning its floral disk towards that of the sun, as it passed in glory through the firmament of heaven. Montgomery thus apostrophizes this beautiful flower:—

Eagle of flowers! I see thee stand,
And on the sun's noon-glory gaze;
With eye like his thy lips expand,
And fringe their disk with golden rays.

The virgins of the sun, who officiated in the feasts of the Peruvians, wore an imitation of this flower in gold; they had also one on their breasts, and carried others in their hands. The Spaniards were astonished at this display of gold, but were still more amazed when they saw the fields, in May, covered with these flowers, which were so closely imitated by the artificers of the new world that the workmanship seemed more to be admired by these rapacious conquerors than the precious metal of which they were formed.

In the days of his power and splendour, the throne of the great Mogul is reported to have been surmounted by a golden palm, with diamond fruits; and the walls of the saloon where this monarch received the ambassadors were covered with an enamelled golden vine, whose grapes were made of amethysts, sapphires, and rubies, to express the different degrees

of ripeness. Every year the possessor of these riches was weighed: the weights were little golden fruits, which he threw amongst his courtiers after the ceremony. These courtiers, who were the greatest lords in India, scrambled for their possession.

So false riches are the only things which surprise and charm the vulgar; they are equally degrading to him who possesses them and to him who desires their possession.

Beautiful gardens of Alcinous! You contain neither palms nor vines, nor harvests of gold and diamonds, yet all the treasures of the great Mogul would not be able to purchase one of those beautiful trees which the divine Homer has covered with eternal flowers and fruits.

It is related that Pythias, a rich Lydian, possessing many mines of gold, neglected the culture of his land, and employed his numerous slaves only in the labours of the mines. His wife, who was full of wisdom and goodness, served him a supper, all the dishes of which were filled with gold. "I give you," said she, "the only thing we have in abundance; you can but reap that which you sow; see, yourself, if gold is so great a blessing." This lesson made a deep impression on

the mind of Pythias, who then acknowledged that Providence had not abandoned true riches to the avarice of men; but that, like a tender mother, she had reserved to herself the care of distributing them every year to her children, as the reward of their labours.

FASCINATION.

ENCHANTER'S NIGHTSHADE, 53 - CIRCÆA LUTETIANA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ONAGRARIÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental herbaceous plant, deciduous in its habit, having a perennial root. It bears a red flower from June to August. Stem, pubescent, erect; leaves, ovate, acute, denticulate, sub-pubescent.

> Thrice round the grave Circæa prints her tread, And chaunts the numbers which disturb the dead.

DARWIN.

As the name of this plant indicates, it is celebrated in magical incantations. Its flowers are rose-coloured and veined with purple; and commonly grow in damp and shady places, where shrubs fit for the purpose to which this has been applied may be supposed to be found. It is named Circæa after the enchantress Circe.

FELICITY.

SWEET SULTAN. - CENTAUREA MOSCHATA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMPOSITÆ.
ART. CLASS, — SYNGENESIA; ORDER, — PRUSTRANEA.

An ornamental annual, bearing a rich purple flower from July to October. Involucre, roundish, smooth; scales, egg-shaped; leaves, lyrate, toothed.

This sweet-scented species of centaury was introduced into England in the reign of Charles I. It is mentioned by Parkinson, in 1629, - "as a kinde of these corne-flowers, I must needs adjoyn another stranger of much beauty, and but lately obtained from Constantinople, where, because, as it is said, the great Turk, as we call him, saw it abroad, liked it, and wore it himself, all his vassals had it in great regard, and it hath been obtained from them by some that have sent it into these parts." And he adds, "the Turks themselves do call it the sultan's flower, and I have done so likewise, that it may be distinguished from all the other kindes." It is also very commonly called Blackamoor's Beauty. We are told that, in the East, it is made the emblem of supreme happiness.

FIRST EMOTION OF LOVE.

LILAC.55 - SYRINGA VULGARIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — OLEINÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous shrub, bearing a blueish flower in May. Leaves, ovate, cordate; branches, stiff, white-coloured.

The lilac, various in array, now white,

Now sanguine, and her beauteous head now set

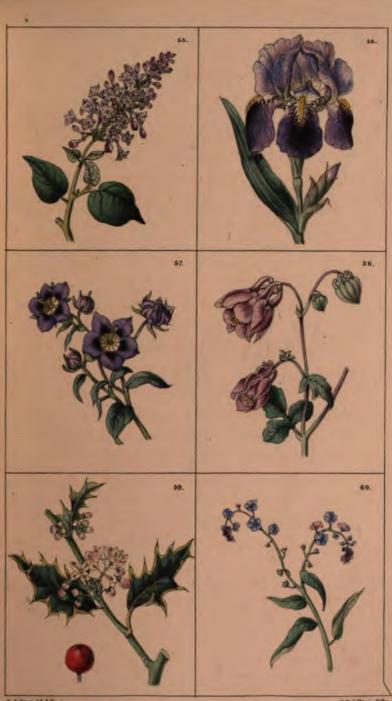
With purple spikes pyramidal, as if,

Studious of ornament, yet unresolved

Which hue she most approved, she chose them all.

The lilac is consecrated to the first emotion of love, because nothing is more delightful than the sensations it produces on its first appearance on the return of spring. The freshness of its verdure, the pliancy of its tender branches, the abundance of its flowers,—their beauty, though brief and transient,—their delicate and varied colours: all their qualities summon up those sweet emotions which enrich beauty, and impart to youth a grace divine. Anacreon has beautifully expressed this idea in the following lines:—

Beauty's rosy ray In flying blushes richly play; Blushes of that celestial flame Which lights the check of virgin shame.





Albano was unable to blend, upon the palette which love had confided to him, colours sufficiently soft and delicate to convey the peculiarly beautiful tints which adorn the human face in early youth;

The velvet down that spreads the cheek;

Van Spaendock himself laid down his pencil in despair before a bunch of lilac. Nature seems to have aimed to produce massy bunches of these flowers, every part of which should astonish by its delicacy and its variety. The gradation of colour, from the purple bud to the almost colourless flowers, is the least charm of these beautiful groups, around which the light plays and produces a thousand shades, which, all blending together in the same tint, forms that matchless harmony which the painter despairs to imitate, and the most indifferent observer delights to behold. What labour has Nature bestowed to create this fragile shrub, which seems only given for the gratification of the senses! What a union of perfume, of freshness, of grace, and of delicacy! What variety in detail! What beauty as a whole!

FLAME.

GERMAN IRIS. SE-1RIS GERMANICA.

NAT. CLASS, - MONOCOTTLEDONES; ORDER, - IRIDEM.
ART. CLASS, - TRIANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental perennial, decidoous. It displays its rich blue flowers in May and June. The stem is many-flowered, longer than the leaves; lower flowers, atalked; spathes, coloured.

Amid its waving swords, in flaming gold The iris towers.

c. SMITH.

THE Iris Germanica are rustic plants, which the German peasants love to grow on the tops of their cottages. When these beautiful flowers are agitated by the breeze, and the sun gilds their petals, tinting them with hues of gold, purple, and azure, they have the appearance of light and perfumed flames, glistening over the rustic dwellings. This appearance has gained the flower the name of "Flaming Iris."

FLATTERY.

VENUS' LOOKING-GLASS.57 - CAMPANULA SPECULUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CAMPANULACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental greenhouse annual, bearing a pretty purple flower in July and August. The stem, prostrate; peduncles, axillary, solitary, one-flowered, very long; corolla, hypocrateriform.

As soon as the sun sheds its golden light upon our corn-fields, we see shining in the midst, the bright purple corollas of the starry flowers of this pretty species of campanula, which, from its resemblance to a mirror, has been named Venus' looking-glass, If the sun's rays be intercepted by clouds, these beautiful flowers immediately close, as at the approach of night. There is an ancient fable which tells us that Venus accidentally let one of her mirrors fall on the earth. A shepherd found it, and casting his eyes upon the glass, which had the power of adorning the object it reflected, he forgot his mistress, and had no other wish than to admire himself. Love, who feared the consequences of so foolish an error, broke the glass, and transformed the remains into this pretty plant.

FOLLY.

COLUMBINE. 58 - AQUILEGIA VULGARIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RANUNCULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — PENTAGYNIA.

A deciduous herbaceous plant, having a perennial root; it bears a blueish flower from May to July; is ornamental, and may frequently be found in our fields. The spurs are incurved; capsule, villous; stem, few or one-flowered. Leaves covered with viscid down; styles not longer than the stamens.

Bring hither the pincke and purple cullambine.

SPENCER.

This is Folly, Childhood's guide, This is Childhood at her side.

HAWKESWORTH.

This graceful flower has long been a favourite inhabitant of the rustic flower-border, and is commonly found in the open places of forests, or extensive woods. Why it has been made the emblem of folly it is difficult to say, some affirming that it is on account of the shape of its nectary, which turns over in a similar manner to the caps of the ancient jesters; while others suppose it to be on account of the party colours which it geneally assumes.

FORESIGHT.

HOLLY.59 -ILEX AQUIFOLIUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RHAMNI.
ART. CLASS, — TETRANDRIA; ORDER, — TETRAGYNIA.

An ornamental timber-tree, bearing a white flower from May to June, followed by red berries, common in the hedges in Britain. The leaves are ovate, acute, spiny, shining, waved; flowers, axillary, umbelled.

Some to the holly hedge
Nestling repair, and to the thicket some;
Some to the rude protection of the thorn.
THOMSON.

The providence of an all-wise Creator is shown in an admirable manner in this beautiful plant. The great hollies which grow in the forest of Needwood bear leaves bristling with thorns to the height of eight or ten feet, and above this height the leaves cease to be thorny. There the plant has no need to arm itself against enemies which cannot reach it. This tree, with its dazzling verdure, is the last ornament of our forests, when they are despoiled by the winter's frosts and chilling blasts; its berries serve as food for the little birds which remain with us through the inclement season of winter; and it also offers them a comfortable shelter amid its foliage.

In that delightful work, Jesse's Gleanings in Natural History, the eloquent author, speaking of the holly, says,—"The economy of trees, plants, and vegetables, is a curious subject of inquiry, and in all of them we may trace the hand of a beneficent Creator. The same care which he has bestowed on his creatures is extended to plants; this is remarkably the case with respect to hollies; the edges of the leaves are provided with strong sharp spines, as high up as they are within the reach of cattle; above that height the leaves are generally smooth, the protecting spines being no longer necessary."

Dr. Southey has noticed this circumstance in the following pretty lines:—

O reader! hast thou ever stood to see
The holly tree?
The eye that contemplates it well perceives
Its glossy leaves;
Order'd by an intelligence so wise
As might confound an atheist's sophistries.

Below a circling fence, its leaves are seen
Wrinkled and keen;
No grazing cattle through their prickly round
Can reach to wound;
But, as they grow where nothing is to fear,
Smooth and unarm'd the pointless leaves appear.

FORGET-ME-NOT.

MYOSOTIS, OR MOUSE-EAR. 60 - MYOSOTIS SCORPIOIDES.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — BORAGINEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A deciduous herbaceous weed, having a perennial root, bearing a pretty blue flower from April to August, common in moist places in Euglish meadows. The calyx is five-toothed, smoothish; teeth, nearly equal, obtuse, as long as the tube of the corolla; leaves, lanceolate, obtuse, smooth; limb of the corolla, more than twice as long as the calyx.

Nowhere are the beautiful flowers of this plant found in such great abundance, as on the banks of a brook near the Luxembourg. The peasants call that brook the "Fairy Bath," or the "Cascade of the enchanted Oak." These two names are given to it on account of the beauty of its source, whence it issues murmuring at the foot of a very old oak. The waters of the brook at first roll on from cascade to cascade, under a long vault of verdure, and afterward flow gently through an extensive meadow; then they appear to the enchanted eye as a long silver thread. The southern bank alone is covered with a thick tapestry of mouse-ear; its pretty flowers sparkle in July, clad in as bright a blue as that of the cerulean sky. Then, they incline as if they took

delight in admiring themselves in the crystal waters, whose purity is unequalled. On this spot the young girls frequently assemble to celebrate their birth-days by dancing on the borders of the brook. When crowned with these lovely flowers, we might suppose them to be nymphs celebrating games in honour of the naiad of the enchanted oak.

It is related that a young couple, who were on the eve of being united, whilst walking along the delightful banks of the Danube, saw one of these lovely flowers floating on the waves, which seemed ready to carry it away. The affianced bride admired the beauty of the flower, and regretted its fatal destiny. The lover was induced to precipitate himself into the water, where he had no sooner seized the flower than he sank into the flood; but making a last effort, he threw the flower upon the shore, and at the moment of disappearing for ever, he exclaimed, "Virgils mich nicht," since which time this flower has been made emblematical, and taken the name of "Forget-me-not."





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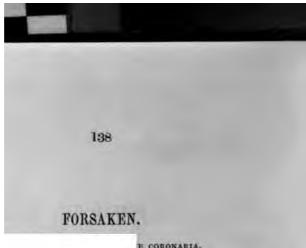
FORGETFULNESS.

MOONWORT .- BOTRYCHIUM LUNARIA.

NAT. CLASS, — ACOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — OPHIAGLASSEE.
ART. CLASS, — CRYPTOGAMIA; ORDER, — FILICES POLYPODIACEE.

A curious plant, deciduous, herbaceous; perennial in its duration; it bears a brown flower in May and June, and inhabits hilly pastures. The scape has a simple frond above; frond, pinnate; pinnæ lunate, entire.

This is the same species as the Lunaria. It does not owe its name to the seed, which might commonly be supposed, but to the partition of its large flat pods, which are orbicular, like the moon. This partition, disengaged from its shells, remains brilliant, and has somewhat the resemblance of a medal. René, duke of Bar and Lorrain, having been made prisoner at the battle of Thoulongear, painted with his own hand a branch of moonwort, and sent it to his vassals to reproach them for their lack of diligence in procuring his deliverance.



NAT. C AR.

A pere and May multified

E CORONARIA.

ER, - RANUNCULACEE. DER, - POLYGYNIA.

ng a striped flower in April The leaves are ternate, with bes; sepals six, oval, close.

uncloses

Her ups until they on by the wind.

H. SMITH.

Anemone was a nymph beloved by Zephyr. Flora, being jealous, banished her from her court, and changed her into a flower, which always opens at the return of spring. Zephyr has abandoned this unfortunate beauty to the rude caresses of Boreas, who, unable to gain her love, agitates her until her blossoms are half open, and then causes her immediately to fade. An anemone, with this motto, "Brevis est usus," - "Her reign is short," admirably expresses the rapid decline of beauty.

FRIENDSHIP.

IVY. - HEDERA HELIX.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CAPRIFOLIACE &.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental evergreen creeper, ligneous, with a green flower in October and November; common in British woods, on old walls, ruins, &c. The leaves are ovate, three-five-angular and three-five-lobed, floral, ovate, acuminate, veiny. Umbels, erect.

I love the ivy-mantled tower,
Rock'd by the storms of thousand years.
CUNNINGHAM.

FAITHFUL love secures with a branch of ivy the quickly-fading roses which adorn the brow. Friendship has chosen for its device an ivy which clothes a fallen tree, with these words:—"Rien ne peut m'en détacher." In Greece, the altar of Hymen was surrounded with ivy, a sprig of which was presented by the priest to a new-married spouse as the symbol of an indissoluble knot. The Bacchantes, old Silenus, and Bacchus himself, were crowned with ivy. Ingratitude has sometimes been represented by ivy, as when it attaches itself to a young tree, it confines the stem, and consequently prevents the free circulation of the sap. The author of a French

work has repelled this calumny. The ivy appears to him to be the emblem of eternal friendship; he says, "Nothing is able to separate the ivy from the tree around which it has once entwined itself; it clothes the object with its own foliage in that inclement season when its black boughs are covered with hoar frost; the companion of its destinies, it falls when the tree is cut down. Death itself does not detach it, but it continues to decorate with its constant verdure the dry trunk it had chosen as its support." Clare says,

The ivy shuns the city wall,

Where busy clamorous crowds intrude,
And climbs the desolated hall

In silent solitude;
The time-worn arch, the fallen dome,
Are roots for its eternal home.

Carrington makes it the symbol of desolation. Alluding to the ruins of Trematon, on the banks of Tamar, he sings,

It is the triumph of resistless time,
Man and his labours must submit to him!
He throws the column from its solid base!
He saps e'en now thy withering remains,
Majestic Trematon! and till the hour,
When he, exulting, on the ground shall dash
Thy walls, now trembling to the western gale,
He clothes them with his spirit-chilling green,

His dark and favourite ivy, cheerless plant, Sacred to desolation!

But we love it best as the emblem of friendship. We rejoice to see the ivied oak, or

"aged elm in ivy bound;"

and we are sure that none will deny its claim to this symbol, since it yields shelter to some of our smaller birds. Wordsworth shall tell us how they harbour 'mid its foliage;—

From behind the roof
Rose the slim ash and massy sycamore,
Blending their diverse foliage with the green
Of ivy, flourishing and thick, that clasped
The huge round chimneys, harbour of delight
For wren and redbreast, where they sit and sing
Their slender ditties when the trees are bare.

It is a popular error that the ivy is a parasitical plant, deriving its support from the tree which it environs, when in fact it is sustained by its own vital powers; its roots are fixed into the earth, and the sap is conveyed into its branches by the same laws which regulate the vital functions of other members of the vegetable kingdom.

FRIVOLITY.

NAT.

order, - Saxifragem. order, - Digynia.

An e perenni to June stem is 1 mental in its appearance and sh-coloured flowers from April , with cartilaginous crene; the

This pretty and universal border plant, is a species of saxifrage. It has received the name also of none-so-pretty; and, if we view it with attention, we shall acknowledge that its prettily spotted petals, which are painted with so much delicacy fully deserve this appellation. Notwithstanding its beauty, it has been made the emblem of a light and frivolous sentiment, for a lover would think it an insult to his mistress, to present her with a nosegay of its flowers.

FRIVOLOUS AMUSEMENT.

BLADDER-NUT TREE. - STAPHYLEA PINNATA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - RHAMNI.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - TRIGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous shrub, bearing a whitish flower from April to June, common in hedges. The leaves are primate.

THE fruit of the bladder nut-tree detonates, when pressed between the fingers. Idle people sometimes partake with children of the frivolous amusement which this effect affords.

FRUITFULNESS.

HOLLYHOCK, - ALTHEA ROSEA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — MALVACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONADELPHIA; ORDER, — POLYANDRIA.

A deciduous herbaceous plant; ornamental in its appearance, biennial in its duration. The flowers, which appear from July to September, are red. The stem is upright, hairy; the leaves are cordate, five-seven-angled, crenate, rugose. The flowers are axillary, sessile.

ALL the world knows this superb plant, which is supposed to be a native of China, or rather of Syria, whence it is said to have been brought to Europe in the time of the crusades. From its extreme fecundity in the production of flowers it has been made the emblem of fruitfulness. The Chinese represent nature crowned with its flowers. Pliny mentions it as a rose growing on stalks like the mallow; and Miller states that he received seeds from Istria, where they were gathered in the fields; these seeds produced only single red flowers, while seeds received from Madras yielded plants with double flowers of a variety of colours. H. Smith tells us, that

From the nectaries of hollyhocks The humble-bee e'en till he faints will sip.

"There are few flowers that contribute more to the embellishment of large gardens than the hollyhock, although their hardy nature and easy propagation have rendered them so common that they are much less regarded by the generality of florists than they deserve."





GALLANTRY.

NOSEGAY.

Ariel sought
The close recesses of the virgin's thought;
As on the nosegay in her breast reclined,
He watched the idea rising in her mind.

POPE.

A WELL-ARRANGED bouquet of flowers is the most delicate mode of paying attention to the fair sex that we can well imagine. Though the flowers themselves will soon fade in the possession of the fair being to whom they may be presented, the recollection of the tender regard with which they were offered will be a source of lasting gratification.

GAME, PLAY.

HYACINTH. 67 - HYACINTHUS ORIENTALIS.

NAT. CLASS, - MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - ASPHODELEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - HEXANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

A bulbous-rooted plant, perennial; the flowers, which are blue, are very ornamental, and appear in March and April. The flowers are funnelshaped, half-six-cleft, ventricose at base.

THE hyacinth, so celebrated in the songs of the poets, from the time of Homer to the present day, is made emblematical of games, or play, in allusion to the fabulous origin of this flower, which, according to the mythologists, sprang from the blood of Hyacinthus, who was killed by a quoit, through the agency of Zephyr, who blew it from its course as it passed from the hand of Apollo, and smote the unfortunate youth on the head. Hurd mentions

> The inclancholy hyacinth that weeps All night, and never lifts an eye all day;

probably in allusion to the melancholy fate of Hyacinthus.

The following address to the hyacinth is extracted from Tait's Magazine. The lines were sent to the editor of that talented periodical as the production of a young country girl in the north of Ireland. We agree with him in saying (if that statement be true), that they are indeed more than wonderful. They are introduced here with great propriety, as they refer to the fate of Hyacinthus, as detailed in the preceding paragraph.

Oh! mournful, graceful, sapphire-coloured flower, That keep'st thine eye for ever fixed on earth! Gentle and sad, a foe thou seem'st to mirth— What secret sorrow makes thee thus to lower?

Perhaps 'tis that thy place thou canst not change, And thou art pining at thy prison'd lot; But oh! where couldst thou find a sweeter spot, Wert thou permitted earth's wide bounds to range?

In pensive grove, meet temple for thy form,
Where, with her silvery music, doth intrude
The lucid stream, where nought unkind or rude
Durst break of harmony the hallowed charm.

Thy beauties, all unseen by vulgar eyes,
Sol, in his brightness, still delights to view;
He clothes thy petals in his glorious hue,
To show how much of old he did thee prize.

And what the sighing zephyr hither brings, To wander in these muse-beloved dells— It is to linger midst thy drooping bells, While vain repentance in thine ear he sings.

And, sweetest flower, methinks thou hast forgiven Him who unconsciously did cause thy death; For, soon as thou hadst yielded up thy breath, With grief for thee his frantic soul was riven.

And thou wert placed where mingle wave and breeze
Their dreamy music with the vocal choir,
Whose varied harmonies might seem a lyre,
Striving with dying notes thy soul to please—

Where winter ne'er ungraciously presumes

To touch thee with his sacrilegious hand—

Where thy meek handmaids are the dews so bland—

Where spring around thee spreads her choicest blooms.

'Tis not revenge or pining wretchedness,

Thy head in pensive attitude that throws—
'Tis extreme sensibility, that shows
In gestures, gratitude speech can't express.

E'en while I pay this tributary praise,

Methinks a deeper tinge thy cheek doth flush;

What, lovely one, need make thee thus to blush,

And turn away from my enraptured gaze!

No, gentle Hyacinth, thou canst not grieve,
When things so lovely worship in thy train —
The sun, the wind, the wave — Oh! it were vain
To sum the homage which thou dost receive.

The sad and musing poetess you cheer —
At sight of thee Mem'ry's electric wings
Waft to her soul long, long-forgotten things —
Loved voices hushed in death she seems to hear.

ANN.

GENEROSITY.

ORANGE TREE. - CITRUS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - AURANTIACE &. ART. CLASS, - POLYADELPHIA; ORDER, - POLYADRIA.

A fruit tree, cultivated in this country in the greenhouse. It bears a white flower, from May to July. The petioles are winged; the leaves elliptical, acute crenulate. Flowers, twenty-androus; fruit globose, with a thin rough skin and bitter pulp.

This is a very ancient genus, and combines many excellencies in its species; it is a handsome evergreen; it has most odoriferous flowers, and brilliant, fragrant, and delicious fruits. Loudon observes, that "it is one of the most striking of fruit-bearing trees, and must have attracted the notice of aboriginal man long before other fruits of less brilliancy, but of more nutriment or flavour. The golden apples of the heathens, and forbidden fruit of the Jews, are supposed to allude to this family, though it is remarkable that we have no authentic records of any species of citrus having been known to, certainly none were cultivated by, the Romans." In the latter part of the seventeenth century, it was a very fashionable tree in conservatories, where few exotics of other sorts were at that time to be found. It has been likened to a generous friend, who is ever loading us with favours.

GENIUS.

PLANE TREE. 68 - PLATANUS ORIENTALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMENTACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, — POLYANDRIA.

A timber tree, whose flowers are apetulous. The leaves are five-lobed, palmate, cuneate at base; segments, lanceolate, sinuated; stipules nearly entire.

THE plane-tree has been appropriated as the symbol of genius, because the ancient Athenian philosophers generally held their discourses, or retired to study, under the agreeable shade of its wide-spreading branches, for it was greatly estremed at Athens. Xernes is said to have been at autranted by the charms of a plane-tree, that he mused his army of 1.706,000 men to halt, while he adictived the tree with all his jewels, and with those of his countilities, and the principal lords of his court, until the heathless were leaded with ornaments of every kind. He called it his mistress and his goddess; and it was with difficulty that he was persuaded to leave the tree of which he had become extraordinarily enamoured. He commanded its figure to be struck on a gold medal, which he constantly were. Herodotus relates, that he raised a golden fence round it, and appointed one of his guards to protect it.

GLORY.

LAUREL. -- LAURUS NOBILIS.

NAT. CLASS. — DICOTTLEDONFS; ORDER, — LAURINEE.
ACT. CLASS. — ENNEANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental evergreen tree, bearing a yellowish white flower in April and May. The leaves are lanceolate, veinny, perennial; the flowers four-fill, discloses.

THE Greeks and Romans consecrated crowns of laurel to glory of every kind. With them they adorned the brows of warriors and of poets, of orators and philosophers, of the vestal virgin and the emperor.

This beautiful shrub is found in abundance in the island of Delphos, where it grows naturally on the banks of the river Peneus. There its aromatic and evergreen foliage is borne up by its aspiring branches to the height of the loftiest trees; and it is alleged that by a secret and peculiar power they avert the thunderbolt from the shores they beautify. The beautiful Daphne was the daughter of the river Peneus. She was beloved by Apollo; but, preferring virtue to the love of the most eloquent of gods, she fled, fearing that the eloquence of his speech should lead her from the paths of virtue. Apollo pursued her; and as he caught her, the nymph invoked the aid of her father, and was changed into the laurel.

In our free land, where letters are so extensively cultivated, they who succeed in exciting popular favour meet with more remuneration than in ancient days; but how few have been honoured so highly as their merits demand, until the last debt of nature has been paid, and then the marble bust, wreathed with bay, is raised to immortalize his fame, whose ears are become deaf to praise. He seldom receives his honours

due while he enjoys the beauties of this terrestrial globe, and Clare has said, in his address to a Poet,

The bard his glory ne'er receives,

Where summer's common flowers are seen,
But winter finds it, when she leaves

The laurel only green;
And Time, from that eternal tree,
Shall weave a wreath to honour thee.

GOOD EDUCATION.

CHERRY TREE. 70 - PRUNUS CERASUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEE.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A well-known fruit tree, with white flowers in April and May. The umbels somewhat stalked; the leaves ova'e, lanceolate, smooth, folded together.

It is generally believed that the cherry tree was first introduced into Italy, 73 A.C., by Lucullus, who obtained it from a town in Pontus, in Asia, called Cerasus, from whence it derives its specific name. The Romans brought it to England, though it is supposed that these have all been lost. There is no proof that cherries were in England at the period of the Norman conquest, nor for some time after; but Lydgate, who wrote about 1415, or before, says that cherries were

then exposed for sale in the London market, as they are now in the early season. It is a very ornamental tree in the shrubbery and in woods, and is esteemed valuable, as encouraging the various species of thrush.

The wild cherry tree, by careful cultivation, will yield agreeable and excellent fruit, in lieu of the dry berries which it bears naturally. So the human intellect, if uncultivated, will be filled with tares and weeds; but, if trained with the hand of tender solicitude, and just sentiments and opinions sown upon the soil, it will bring forth the fruit of uprightness, and integrity, and obtain for the individual consequent respect and esteem.

GOODNESS.

GOOSE-FOOT. 71 - CHENOPODIUM BONUS HENRICUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CHENOPODEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

A curious evergreen herbaceous plant, perennial in its duration. The flowers, from May to August, green. The leaves are triangular, hastate, entire; the spikes compound, clustered, leafless, axillary, and terminal.

THE French people have given the name of their beloved king, Henry IV., to a beneficent and useful plant, which grows for the poor, and indeed seems exclusively to belong to them. In France it flourishes without any cultivation, and forms the asparagus and spinach of the poor; in England it is known also as wild spinach. The leaves are said to be of great service when applied to wounds. Happy is that king who deserves a homage so universal and so simple!

GRACES.

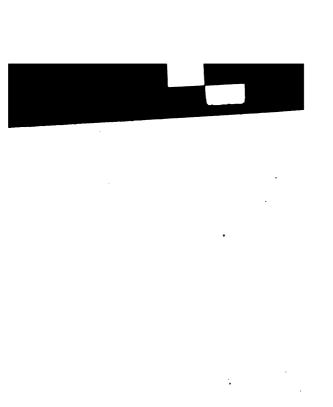
PROVINS ROSE. 72 - ROSA CENTIFOLIA.

NAT. CLASS, -- DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, -- ROSACE ... ART. CLASS, -- ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, -- POLYGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous shrub, bearing, abundantly, beautiful pink flowers, from the commencement of June to the end of August. Arms, unequal; the larger, falcate. The leaflets are glandular, ciliate; the flowers, cernuous; the calyx, viscid; fruit, oblong.

This tree bears a very fine double flower, of a deep crimson colour; its perfume, however, is weak.

It is mentioned by Pliny as growing around Campania, in Italy, and in the neighbourhood of Philippi, in Greece; and its flowers are so double that they have a hundred leaves. This rose does not, however, grow there naturally, but near to Mount Pangæus, and when





transplanted from thence to Philippi, they yield finer flowers than on their native mountain. It is recorded, that when the Graces accompany Venus and her ministering Cupids, they are crowned with myrtle; and when they follow the Muses, they are crowned with wreaths of the hundred-leaved rose.

GRANDEUR.

ASH.73 - FRAXINUS EXCELSIOR.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - OLEINÆ. ART. CLASS, - POLYGAMIA; ORDER, DIECIA.

A timber tree, common in woods in Britain. The leaflets are somewhat stalked, lanceolate, acuminate, serrated, smooth, cuncate at base; the branches are flat and smooth.

> - ash, far stretching his umbrageous arm. COWPER.

The towering ash is fairest in the woods. VIRGIL.

THERE is a singular allegory in the Edda, which states that the gods hold their court under the shade of a miraculous ash, whose extensive branches shadow the whole surface of the earth; the top of the tree touches the heavens, and its roots descend to the regions of Pluto. An eagle constantly reposes on the tree, to observe everything, and a squirrel continually ascends and descends to make report. Beneath its roots flow two fountains. In the one wisdom is concealed, and in the other is found the knowledge of things to come. Three virgins are entrusted with the charge of this sacred tree, who ever remain under its branches to refresh the tree with these salutary waters, which, on falling back on the earth, form a dew that produces honey. This effect has been ingeniously compared to the results of inventive science.

GRATITUDE.

PYRAMIDAL BELL-FLOWER.74 - CAMPANULA PYRAMIDALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CAMPANULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental perennial, deciduous, herbaceous plant, bearing a pretty pale-blue flower in July and September. The leaves are smooth, ovate, cordate, cartilaginous-serrated; the cauline leaves lanceolate. The stem upright, elongated, branched. Peduneles, three-flowered.

This was a very fashionable plant some thirty years ago, and is still cultivated. It is used in Holland as an ornament to halls and staircases, and for placing before fire-places in the summer. For this purpose it is planted in large pots, and is trained in such a manner as to cover a large surface, and continues to flower for two or three months in shady places. When in full flower it is a very magnificent plant, rising in a pyramidal shape, not unlike that of the towering pagoda. It may be trained to almost any shape, and we presume that on this account it has been made the emblem of gratitude.

HATRED.

BASIL.78 - OCYMUM BASILICUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LABIATÆ. ART. CLASS, — DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, — GYMNOSPERMIA.

A culinary annual. Flower, white. The leaves ovate, smooth. Calyxes ciliated.

POVERTY is sometimes represented under the figure of an old woman covered with rags, seated near a plant of basil. It is commonly said, that hate has the eyes of a basilisk, because this name has been given to a fabulous animal, which is stated to produce death by a single glance. Basil, however, is a name derived from the Greek, which signifies royal, and indicates the excellence of this fragrant plant.

HAUGHTINESS, PRIDE.

AMARYLLIS. 76 - AMARYLLIS FORMOSISSIMA.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMARYLLIDEE.
ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental greenhouse perennial, bearing dark-red flowers from May to August. The tube fringed; the corolla nodding, with a very ringent limb. Stamens included in the involute lower segment.

Gardeners say that the amaryllis, of which there are numerous varieties, is a proud plant, because it frequently refuses its flowers to their most earnest cares. The Guernsey lily is a charming flower, and closely resembles the tuberose in appearance and size; it is of a cherry-red colour, and, when the sun shines upon it, it seems studded with gems of gold. The name of this plant is derived from a Greek word, which has been not inappropriately translated by Monsieur Pirolle, as significant of splendour, and perhaps we have no flowering plant more beautifully gay than the amaryllis.

HEALING.

BALM OF GILEAD, - AMYRIS GILEADENSIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — TEREBINTACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — OCTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A shrub, with purple branches, striated a little; with crowded ternate leaves, and protuberant buds, loaded with balsamic resin.

This exquisite balm was justly esteemed by the ancients, and seems to have been prepared by nature to soften our pains. We often employ the word balm in a moral sense, to express that which tempers and soothes our sorrows. Beneficent virtue and tender friendship are true balms which heal the wounds of the heart,—wounds a thousand times more insupportable than all physical ills.

HIDDEN MERIT.

CORIANDER. 77 - CORIANDRUM SATIVUM.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - UMBELLIFERE.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - DIGYNIA.

An annual, cultivated in the fields of England, flowering in June. The fruit globose.

When fresh gathered, this plant has a powerful and very disagreeable smell. It is extensively cultivated in Essex. The seeds, which are slightly aromatic, are used to cover the taste of senna, and in spices, as curry powder. They are also believed to possess considerable medicinal properties of great value.

E.

EGUS OXYACANTHA

NA ART. NES; ORDER, - ROSACEÆ. ORDER, - DI-PENTAGYNIA.

An ornamental tree, deciduous in its habit, bearing a white flower in May and June. The leaves are obtuse, subtrifid, serrated, smooth; peduncles and calyx nearly smooth; sepals, lanceolate and acute.

Now hawthorns blossom, now the daisies spring.

POPE.

Now all nature is enlivened with hope and with joy; the swallow has returned to us once more, and the nightingale warbles her enchanting songs in the neighbouring thickets, announcing the duration of fine weather,—

Around the hawthorn flings its rich perfume!

Poor vine-dressers! now be assured the cold frosts shall not again destroy the tender vine-buds, the hope of your

long and careful labours. Happy labourers! the rude north wind shall not blight your verdant plains; but the sun shall gild them with his genial rays, and ripen the fruit ye seek for.

The hawthorn has been made the emblem of hope, because the young and beautiful Athenian maids brought its branches, covered with flowers, to decorate their companions on their nuptial day, whilst they bare larger boughs of it to the altar. The altar of Hymen was lighted by torches made from the wood of this tree; and it also formed the flambeaux which illuminated the nuptial chamber. We are told that the Troglodytes, in the simplicity of their minds, tied hawthorn branches to the dead bodies of their parents and friends; and at the interment of the corpse they strewed its branches upon the body, and afterwards covered it with stones, laughing through the whole of the ceremony. They considered death as the dawning of a life which should never cease.

The hawthorn boughs were used in England as one of the principal decorations of the Maypole in our ancient village amusements; and this circumstance, together with its flowering in May, have obtained for it more commonly the name of that month. What more delights the young and the light-hearted, than to gather

from our hedgerows a branch of this tree filled with its delicate flowers, whose petals are not unfrequently tinged with a beautiful delicate pink! and, as we read in the deathless words of Shakspere,

> Gives not the hawthorn-bush a sweeter shade To shepherds, looking on their silly sheep, Than doth a rich embroidered canopy To kings, that fear their subjects' treachery? O! yes, it doth; a thousand-fold it doth.

HORROR.

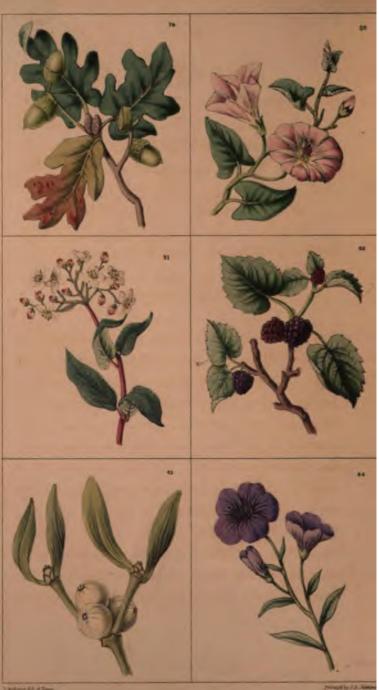
SERPENTINE CACTUS. - CACTUS SERPENTINUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, CACTI.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, MONOGYNIA.

A grotesque evergreen undershrub, cultivated in the dry stove; it is erect, rounded below, long, elegant, with about nine angles; the spines are snow white, weak; wool very short.

EVERY kind of serpent or snake, until naturalists discovered that the common English snake is innoxious, was believed to be hurtful to man; and it must yet be allowed, that even the latter species is viewed by most people with distrust and horror. The cactus has been the emblem of the latter sentiment, from the similarity of its long trailing prickly branches, which are thrown in knotted curls around the root, to the coils of serpents.





HOSPITALITY.

OAK.79 - QUERCUS PEDUNCULATA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMENTACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, — POLYANDRIA.

A universally known timber tree, leaves are oblong, subsessile, smooth, sinuated; lobes, round; fruit, oblong, stalked.

Under an oak, whose antique root peeps out Upon the brook that brawls along this wood.

SHAKSPERE.

The ancients believed that the oak, created with the earth, offered food and shelter to the first parents of our kind. This tree is said to have shaded the cradle of Jupiter, to whom it was consecrated, after his birth upon Mount Lycæus, in Arcadia. The oaken crown was less esteemed by the Greeks than the crown of gold; but the Romans considered it the most desirable of all rewards. In order to obtain it the candidate must be a citizen,—he must have killed an enemy,—restored a lost victory,—and have saved the life of a Roman. Scipio Africanus refused the civic crown after having saved his father's life at the battle of Trebia; he refused the crown because the consciousness of having

discharged a sacred duty appeared to him to be a sufficient reward. In Epirus the oaks of Dodona gave out oracles; while the wide-spreading foliage of the Gallic oak concealed the mysterious sacrifices of the ancient Druids. With the Celts, who adored this tree, it was the emblem of hospitality, a quality so highly esteemed by them, that, next to their claims to bravery, they considered the title of "friend to the stranger" as the most to be desired.

Hamadryads, fairies, and genii, no longer enchant our sombre forests; but the aspect of a majestic oak still fills us with admiration, and inspires us with respect and awe; when, full of youth and strength, it elevates its lofty head, and extends its immense branches, assuming the character of a protector. Despoiled of its verdure by the power of a thunder-shock, it resembles an old man, who having outlived his generation, no longer takes an interest in the passing events of the world. The impetuous winds oft wrestle for the mastery with

The monarch oak, the sturdy growth Of ages;

but he yields not to the howling tempest, and is

Long triumphant o'er decay.

If this tree had no other claim to be made the emblem of hospitality, it surely would merit that honour for the service rendered by one of its kind to the unfortunate Charles II., when a fugitive in the heart of his own kingdom.

HUMILITY.

BINDWEED. 80 - CONVOLVULUS ARVENSIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CONVOLVULACEE.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A perennial rooted deciduous twiner, common in corn-fields, bearing a rather small rose-coloured flower in June and July. The leaves are sagittate; their lobes acute; peduncles mostly one-flowered; bracteas, minute, distant from the flowers.

The cumbrous bindweed, with its wreaths and bells.

WORDSWORTH.

This perennial twiner is a species of convolvulus, and is a very troublesome plant in the corn-field, where it is very commonly found. It is a simple flower; and, probably on account of this quality, it has been made the emblem of humility.

I ATTACH MYSELF TO YOU.

SCARLET IPOMŒA, OR INDIAN JASMINE. - IPOMŒA COCCINEA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CONVOLVULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental annual twiner, cultivated in bark stoves in England, bearing a succession of bright scarlet flowers from June to September. The plant is downy; its leaves are cordate, accuminate, angular at the base. The peduncles are five-flowered. The calyx is warted and bearded.

This beautiful twining plant is a species of bindweed, or something analogous; like the convolvulus, it requires something to support its light tendrils; and, without fatiguing that support, wreaths it with verdure and flowers.

I DIE IF NEGLECTED.

LAURESTINE,81 - VIBURNUM TINUS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - CAPRIFOLIACE &.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - TRIGYNIA.

An ornamental evergreen shrub. Its leaves are ovate, oblong, entire. The divisions of the veins and the young branches are glandular.

This is one of the prettiest of evergreen shrubs, and is the gift of Spain to our highly-favoured land. In winter it is the ornament of our groves, displaying its shining leaves and snowy-white flowers when other trees have ceased to bloom.

Neither the hot breath of summer nor the cold kiss of winter can rob it of its charms; but to preserve it we must tend it with assiduous care. The symbol of a constant and delicate friendship, it ever seeks to please, yet dies if neglected.

I WILL NOT SURVIVE YOU.

BLACK MULBERRY-TREE.82 - MORUS NIGRA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — URTICEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONGCIA; ORDER, — TETRANDRIA.

A well known fruit tree, often attaining the height of thirty feet. The leaves are cordate, ovate or lobed; unequally toothed, scabrous.

THE fruit of the mulberry-tree, like that of the strawberry and raspberry, is said not to undergo the acetous fermentation in the stomach, and therefore may be safely eaten. As the tree becomes older, it increases in fruitfulness; and, when fully grown, its fruit is much larger and better-flavoured than that of the young ones.

From the circumstance of this tree being mentioned

in the affecting story of Pyramus and Thisbe, narrated by La Fontaine, and which nearly all the world has read, it has been selected by the French floral linguist to express the sentiment at the head of this article. Pyramus, fearing that his beloved Thisbe had been devoured by an enraged lion, killed himself in despair. Thisbe, having been alarmed, had fled from the appointed place of meeting, and returned only in time to see Pyramus expire. She would not survive him, but taking the poniard he had so effectually used, she destroyed her own existence. Thus in death these two lovers were re-united.

I PARTAKE YOUR SENTIMENTS.

GARDEN DAISY.

Within the garden's cultured round,
It shares the sweet carnation's bed.

J. MONTGOMERY.

The daisy, like many other plants, undergoes a conable change, when transplanted from its native field cultivated parterre. To preserve them, however, ir altered state, it seems necessary to divide the roots and transplant them every year. They thrive best in a moist loamy soil, without any admixture of manure; and continue in flower for a longer period if shaded from the heat of the mid-day sun.

The garden daisy has been adopted to express reciprocity of feeling, in reference to an ancient custom in the days of chivalry. When the mistress of a knight permitted him to engrave this flower on his scarf, it was understood as a public avowal that she partook of his sentiments. Leyden has favoured us with some beautiful lines on the daisy, in which he alludes to this custom:—

Star of the mead! sweet daughter of the day,
Whose opening flower invites the morning ray,
From thy moist cheek, and bosom's chilly fold,
To kiss the tears of eve, the dew-drops cold!
Sweet daisy, flower of love! when birds are paired,
'Tis sweet to see thee, with thy bosom bared,
Smiling, in virgin innocence, serene,
Thy pearly crown above thy vest of green.
The lark, with sparkling eye, and rustling wing,
Rejoins his widowed mate in early spring,
And as she prunes his plumes of russet hue,
Swears, on thy maiden blossom, to be true.

Oft have I watched thy closing buds at eve, Which for the parting sunbeams seemed to grieve, And, when gay morning gilt the dew-bright plain, Seen them unclasp their folded leaves again; Nor he who sung—"the daisy is so sweet"—More dearly loved thy pearly form to greet;

When on his scarf the knight the daisy bound, And dames at tourneys shone, with daisies crowned, And fays forsook the purer fields above, To hail the daisy, flower of faithful love.

We might almost suppose that Wordsworth had been aware of the daisy's power of language, when he introduced it in his description of a deserted flower-garden; where it seems to accord in sentiment with the various plants that once in beauty shone, but now, neglected, droop and hang "their languid heads,"—

Daisy-flowers and thrift Had broken their trim lines, and straggled o'er The paths they used to deck.

And did not our countryman, James Montgomery, illustrious in the annals of poetry, partake warmly of the sentiments of that learned Baptist missionary, Dr. Carey, when he composed those beautiful lines, entitled "The Daisy in India," and which we here present to the reader, as they must awaken a kindred feeling in every heart where sensibility is not entirely extinguished? Dr. Carey had expressed, in a letter to a botanical friend in England, the pleasure he felt on observing a daisy spring up, unexpectedly, in his garden at Serampore, where he was stationed on his important duty. It had been borne over the waters in some English earth

in which other seeds were conveyed; and now, in another clime, it opened its "crimson-tipped flower" to the warm air of the east; we can conceive the welcome surprise with which the little flower was greeted! Aye!

Thrice welcome, little English flower!
Thy mother-country's white and red,
In rose or lily, till this hour,
Never to me such beauty spread:
Transplanted from thine island-bed,
A treasure in a grain of earth,
Strange as a spirit from the dead,
Thine embryo sprang to birth.

Thrice welcome, little English flower!

Whose tribes beneath our natal skies
Shut close their leaves while vapours lower;
But when the sun's gay beams arise,
With unabash'd but modest eyes
Follow his motion to the west,
Nor cease to gaze till daylight dies,
Then fold themselves to rest.

Thrice welcome, little English flower!

To this resplendent hemisphere,
Where Flora's giant offspring tower
In gorgeous liveries all the year;
Thou, only Thou, art little here,
Like worth unfriended or unknown,
Yet to my British heart more dear
Than all the torrid zone.

Thrice welcome, little English flower!

Of early scenes beloved by me,

While happy in my father's bower,

Thou shalt the blithe memorial be;

The fairy sports of infancy,
Youth's golden age, and manhood's prime,
Home, country, kindred, friends,—with thee
Are mine in this far clime.

Thrice welcome, little English flower!

I'll rear thee with a trembling hand;
O for the April sun and shower,
The sweet May-dews of that fair land,
Where daisies, thick as star-light, stand
In every walk!—that here might shoot
Thy scions, and thy buds expand,
A hundred from one root!

Thrice welcome, little English flower!

To me the pledge of hope unseen:
When sorrow would my soul o'erpower

For joys that were, or might have been,
I'll call to mind, how—fresh and green,—
I saw thee waking from the dust;
Then turn to heaven, with brow serene,
And place in God my trust.

I FEEL YOUR KINDNESS.

FLAX.64 - LINUM USITATISSIMUM.

Then on the rock a scanty measure place Of vital flax, and turned the wheel apace, And turning sung.

DRYDEN'S OVID.

TRULY we ought to be grateful to this useful plant! It yields us the linen we wear, the paper we write upon,

and the lace which adorns our fair countrywomen. Nowhere can we cast our eyes, but we see evidence of its utility. It has been cultivated from time immemorial for the lint and tow it affords, and it was formerly the chief occupation of our cottagers' wives to spin this into yarn and linen cloth. It is grown pretty generally in the Isle of Axholme, in Lincolnshire. Our Devonian bard, Carrington, mentions it in "Dartmoor," where its cultivation has been attempted by Sir Thomas Tyrwhitt and others with partial success:—

How sweetly blooms
Upon the slopes the azure-blossom'd flax!
How wave the grassy seas of sheltered fields,
Triumphant o'er the solitudes around,
Less happy where the cultivator's hand,
Creating, comes not. If to him belongs
The name of benefactor of mankind,
"Who makes two blades of cheerful grass to grow
Where but one grew before," what meed is thine,
Tyrwhitt, who, for the unprofitable heath,
The lichen, and the worthless moss, that erst
Crept o'er the hill, hast round thy highland home
A belt of generous verdure thrown, and bade
A sweet oasis in the desert rise
Upon the traveller's admiring eye?

I SURMOUNT ALL DIFFICULTIES.

MISSELTOE.83 - VISCUM ALBUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, LOBANTHEE.
ART. CLASS, — DIŒCIA; ORDER, TETRANDRIA.

A curious plant. The leaves are obovate, lanceolate, obtuse; the stems are dichotomous; the heads of flowers are in the axils of an upper pair of leaves. The whole plant is of a yellow hue.

All your temples strow
With laurel green, and sacred mistletoe.

GAY.

The misseltoe is a parasitical plant, growing chiefly on the summit of fruit-trees, though the proud oak sometimes becomes its slave, and yields its own substance to support it. "The Druids sent round their attendant youths with branches of the misseltoe, to announce the entrance of the new year;" and something like this custom is said still to be continued in France; and our English friends, who maintain the Christmas customs and gambols of our ancestors, need not that we should remind them of the part it plays in those festivities. The Druids had a species of adoration for a weakness so superior to strength. The tyrant subjugator of the oak appeared to them alike formidable to men and

gods; and they related the following story in support of their opinion: - " One day, Balder told his mother Friga, that he had dreamed he should die. Friga conjured the elements-earth, air, fire, and water; metals, maladies, animals, and serpents, that they should do no evil to her son; and her conjurations were so powerful that nought could resist them. Balder, therefore, went to the combat of the gods, and fought in the midst of showers of arrows without fear. Loake, his enemy, wished to know the reason; he took the form of an old woman, and sought out Friga. He addressed her thus: In the midst of our fight, the arrows and rocks fall on your son without hurting him.' 'I believe it,' replied Friga, 'all those substances are sworn to me; there is nothing in nature which can hurt him. I have obtained this favour from everything which has power. There is only one little plant that I cared not to ask, because it appeared too feeble to injure; it was growing upon the bark of an oak, with scarcely any root; it lives without soil, and is called misseltoe.' So spake Friga. Loake immediately ran and found the plant, and entering the assembly of the gods, while they were fighting against the invulnerable Balder (for their games are combats), he approached the blind Heda. 'Why,' said he, 'do

you not contend with the arrows of Balder?' 'I am blind,' he answered, 'and have no arms.' Loake presented to him the misseltoe, and said, 'Balder is before thee.' The blind Heda discharged the arrow, and Balder fell pierced and slain. Thus, the invulnerable offspring of a goddess was killed by an arrow of misseltoe, shot by a blind man." Such is the origin of the respect borne by the Gauls towards this shrub.

I LOVE YOU. INFATUATION.

PERUVIAN HELIOTROPE. 85 - HELIOTROPIUM PERUVIANUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — BORAGINEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

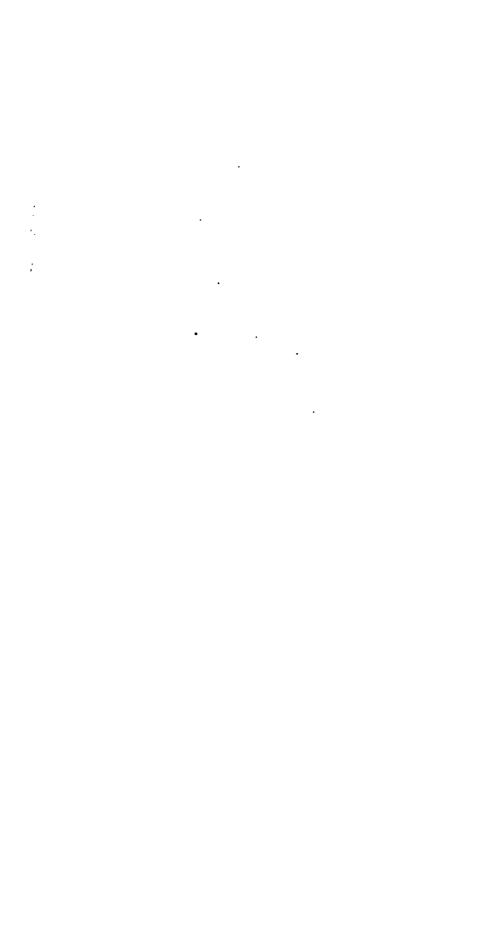
A greenhouse plant, evergreen, ornamental, bearing sweet-scented lilac flowers from May to September. The leaves are oblong, lanceolate; the stem is shrubby; the spikes numerous, aggregate, corymbose.

This evergreen trailer is a native of Peru, and bears beautiful lilac-coloured flowers; and, in the greenhouse, continues in bloom nearly the whole of the year.

The Orientals say that the perfumes of the heliotrope elevate their souls towards heaven; it is true that they exhilirate us, and produce a degree of intoxication. The sensation produced by inhaling them, may, it is



Published by R. Your. S. Belgranei by Tree.



said, be renewed by imagination, even though years have passed away after the reality was experienced.

The Countess Eleanora, natural daughter of Christian IV., king of Denmark, who became so notorious by the misfortunes, crimes, and exile of Count Ulfeld, her husband, offers to us a striking proof of the power of perfumes on the memory. This princess, at the age of thirteen, had become attached to a young man to whom she was subsequently affianced. This young man died in the castle where they were making preparations for the marriage. Eleanora, in despair, wished to take a long last look at the object of her love; and, if alive, to bid a last adieu. She was conducted into the chamber where he had just expired. The body was already placed on a bier, and covered with rosemary. The spectacle made such a deep impression upon the affianced maiden, that though she afterwards exhibited courage equal to her misfortunes, she never could breathe the perfume of rosemary without falling into the most frightful convulsions.

The celebrated Jussieu, while botanising in the Cordilleras, suddenly inhaled the most exquisite perfumes. He expected to find some brilliantly-coloured flowers, but only perceived some pretty clumps of an agreeable

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Let clouds obscure, or darkness veil, Her fond idolatry is fled; Her sighs no more their sweets exhale,— The loving eye is cold and dead.

Canst thou not trace a moral here, False flatterer of the prosperous hour? Let but an adverse cloud appear, And thou art faithless as the flower!

INTOXICATION.

VINE. 86 - VITUS VINIFERA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — VINIFERÆ. ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A hardy deciduous climber, having green flowers in June and July. The leaves are sinuated, naked; the berry is five seeded.

But oh! let vines luxuriant roll
Their blushing tendrils round the bowl.

ANACREON.

THE grateful juice of the vine has been given to cheer the heart of man, and though, alas! it is too often used as the excitement to unseemly revelry, where men degrade themselves to the condition of the brutes, over which they were created lords, we confess we like to see

> Depending vines the shelving caverns screen, With purple clusters blushing through the green.

POPE.

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you not contend with the arrows of Balder?' 'I am blind,' he answered, 'and have no arms.' Loake presented to him the misseltoe, and said, 'Balder is before thee.' The blind Heda discharged the arrow, and Balder fell pierced and slain. Thus, the invulnerable offspring of a goddess was killed by an arrow of misseltoe, shot by a blind man." Such is the origin of the respect borne by the Gauls towards this shrub.

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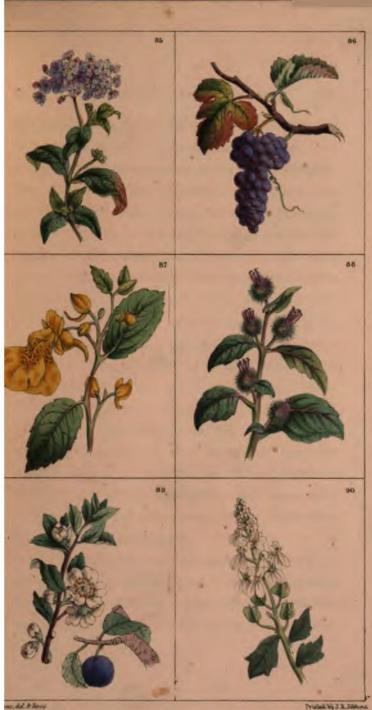
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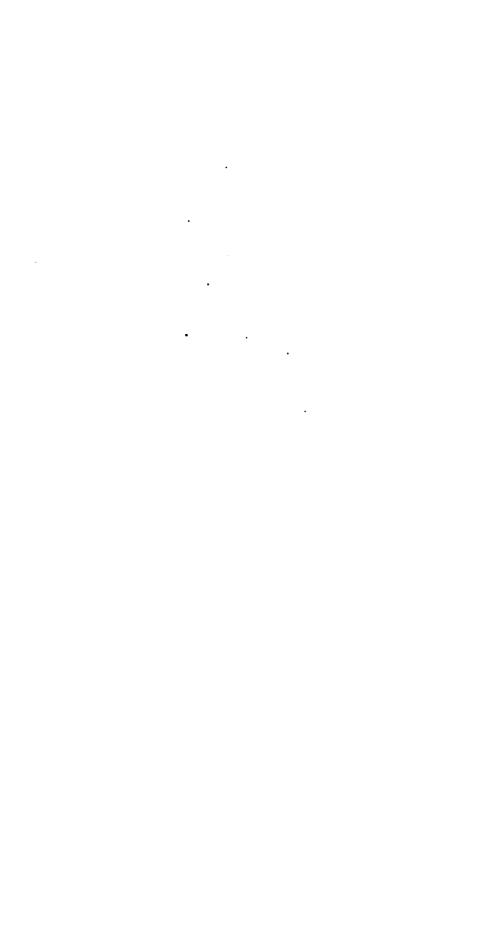
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This evergreen trailer is a native of Peru, and bears beautiful lilac-coloured flowers; and, in the greenhouse, continues in bloom nearly the whole of the year.

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INTOXICATION.

VINE. 86 - VITUS VINIFERA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - VINIFERE. ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

A hardy deciduous climber, having green flowers in June and July. The leaves are sinuated, naked; the berry is five seeded.

> But oh! let vines luxuriant roll Their blushing tendrils round the bowl.

ANACREON.

THE grateful juice of the vine has been given to cheer the heart of man, and though, alas! it is too often used as the excitement to unseemly revelry, where men degrade themselves to the condition of the brutes, over which they were created lords, we confess we like to see

> Depending vines the shelving caverns screen, With purple clusters blushing through the green.

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J. Andrews, Ad. & Tinco

Product by J R. Johnson



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The celebrated Jussieu, while botanising in the Cordilleras, suddenly inhaled the most exquisite perfumes. He expected to find some brilliantly-coloured flowers, but only perceived some pretty clumps of an agreeable green, bearing flowers of a pale blue colour. On approaching nearer, he observed that the flowers turned gently towards the sun, which they appeared to regard with reverential love. Struck with this peculiar disposition, he gave the plant the name of heliotrope, which is derived from two Greek words, signifying "sun," and "I turn." The learned botanist, delighted with this charming acquisition, collected a quantity of the seeds, and sent them to the Jardin du Roi, at Paris, where it was first cultivated in Europe. The ladies collected it with enthusiasm,—placed it in their richest vases—called it the flower of love,—and received with indifference every bouquet in which their favourite flower was not to be found.

An anonymous writer has made it emblematical of flattery, as it is said that when a cloud obscures the sky, it droops its head. We would rather suppose that, like the lover, whose heart is sad when absent from his mistress, so the heliotrope droops because it is deprived of the cheering rays of the sun that it seems to adore.

> There is a flower whose modest eye Is turned with looks of light and love, Who breathes her softest, sweetest sigh, Whene'er the sun is bright above.

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you not contend with the arrows of Balder?' 'I am blind,' he answered, 'and have no arms.' Loake presented to him the misseltoe, and said, 'Balder is before thee.' The blind Heda discharged the arrow, and Balder fell pierced and slain. Thus, the invulnerable offspring of a goddess was killed by an arrow of misseltoe, shot by a blind man." Such is the origin of the respect borne by the Gauls towards this shrub.

I LOVE YOU. INFATUATION.

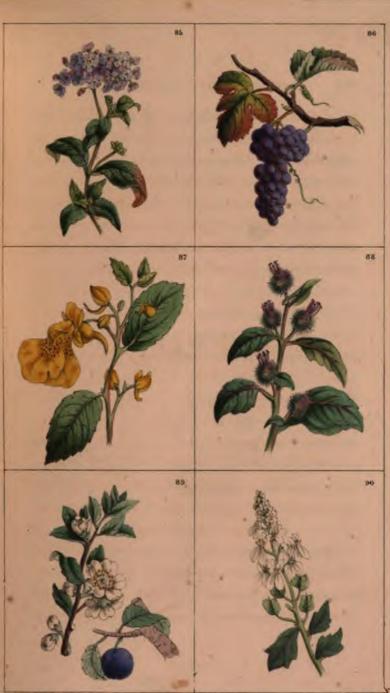
PERUVIAN HELIOTROPE. 85 - HELIOTROPIUM PERUVIANUM.

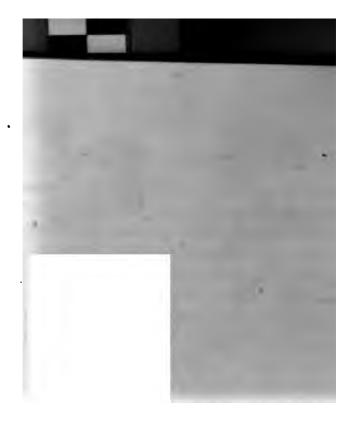
NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — BORAGINEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A greenhouse plant, evergreen, ornamental, bearing sweet-scented lilac flowers from May to September. The leaves are oblong, lanceolate; the stem is shrubby; the spikes numerous, aggregate, corymbose.

This evergreen trailer is a native of Peru, and bears beautiful lilac-coloured flowers; and, in the greenhouse, continues in bloom nearly the whole of the year.

The Orientals say that the perfumes of the heliotrope elevate their souls towards heaven; it is true that they exhilirate us, and produce a degree of intoxication. The sensation produced by inhaling them, may, it is





said, be renewed by imagination, even though years have passed away after the reality was experienced.

The Countess Eleanora, natural daughter of Christian IV., king of Denmark, who became so notorious by the misfortunes, crimes, and exile of Count Ulfeld, her husband, offers to us a striking proof of the power of perfumes on the memory. This princess, at the age of thirteen, had become attached to a young man to whom she was subsequently affianced. This young man died in the castle where they were making preparations for the marriage. Eleanora, in despair, wished to take a long last look at the object of her love; and, if alive, to bid a last adieu. She was conducted into the chamber where he had just expired. The body was already placed on a bier, and covered with resemary. The spectacle made such a deep impression upon the affianced maiden, that though she afterwards exhibited courage equal to her misfortunes, she never could breathe the perfume of rosemary without falling into the most frightful convulsions.

The celebrated Jussieu, while botanising in the Cordilleras, suddenly inhaled the most exquisite perfumes. He expected to find some brilliantly-coloured flowers, but only perceived some pretty clumps of an agreeable of gold, enriched with a flower of the amaranth in enamel, with this motto: — "Dolce nella memoria."

In the floral games at Toulouse, the prize for the best lyrical verses is a golden amaranth.

IMPATIENCE.

BALSAM. 87 - IMPATIENS NOLITANGERE.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — BALSAMINEE.

ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental annual, somewhat rare, but generally inhabiting moist and shady places. Its flowers are large, yellow, spotted with orange. The joints of the stem tumid; leaves, ovate, serrated, petiolate; peduncles, solitary, many flowered.

An East Indian species of this plant is one of the most beautiful and delicate of popular annuals, and forms a showy cone of carnation-like flowers, finely variegated. It possesses the peculiar property of retaining, during the hottest months of summer, all its freshness and beauty, while many other plants are withered before they have flowered. It has been named Nolitangere and Impatiens, from the curious fact that when the seeds are ripe, they are thrown with considerable force out of the capsules on their being slightly touched; on this account it has been made the emblem of impatience. The Turks use it to represent ardent love.

IMPORTUNITY.

BURDOCK.88 - ARCTIUM LAPPA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMPOSITÆ.

ART. CLASS, — SYNGENESIA; ORDER, — EQUALIS.

A biennial weed, common in waste places and byway sides. The radical leaves large, often slightly toothed. The involucre with hooked scales, which fasten themselves tenaciously to clothes, &c.; these are sometimes glabrous, and have occasionally a cottony substance interwoven with them. The flowers are purple, and bloom in July and August.

THE burdock is an inhabitant of road-sides and ditchbanks, and is equally common in Europe and Japan. When once it has become transplanted into good ground, it is very difficult to be eradicated; every one knows its bristly fruit, which attaches itself to our clothes in an importunate manner.

INCONSTANCY.

EVENING PRIMROSE. - ENOTHERA BIENNIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ONAGRARIÆ.
ART. CLASS, — OCTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous herbaceous biennial, bearing a succession of yellow flowers from June to a late period in the Autumn. The leaves are ovate, lanceolate, flat; the stem, muricated, villous; the stamens shorter than the corolla.

Ir is uncertain when this beautiful flower was first

introduced into England, though we know that it was brought from Virginia to Padua in the year 1619. It was a peneral favourite with our poets, who give it a very derent character to that we have assigned to it in floral the em account of the transient duration as between six and seven character to this leads to the transient of the transient o

When once the in the west,
And dew-drops pear. ... Evening's breast;
Almost as pale as moon-beams are,
Or its companionable star,
The evening primrose opes anew
Its delicate blossoms to the dew;
And, hermit-like, shunning the light,
Wastes its fair bloom upon the Night,
Who, blindfold to its fond caresses,
Knows not the beauty he possesses.
Thus it blooms on while Night is by;
When Day looks out with open eye,
'Bashed at the gaze it cannot shun,
It faints, and withers, and is gone.

INDEPENDENCE.

WILD PLUM TREE. 89 - PRUNUS DOMESTICA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A fruit tree, common in English edges, having a white blossom in April. The peduncles are either solitary or two together; the leaves are ovate, lanceolate, somewhat downy beneath; the branches are not spiny. The original stock of our garden plum.

THE wild plum is the least docile of our indigenous trees. It will not bear training, nor can we transplant it with success. We therefore engraft the domestic plum upon the stock of an apricot tree. For these reasons the wild plum has been considered the emblem of independence; and, also, because it is said to love lofty situations.

INDIFFERENCE.

CANDY-TUFT. 90 - IBERIS AMARA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CRUCIFERÆ.
ART. CLASS, — TETRADYNAMIA; ORDER, — SILICULOSA.

An ornamental annual, inhabiting chalky fields, but not common. It bears a white flower in June and July. The plant is herbaceous; the leaves, lanceolate, acute, very variable in the toothing. The flowers are corymbose, becoming racemose. The silicules, obcordate, and narrowly emarginate.

THE iberis continues in blossom nearly the whole year,

ever presenting to us its bright green foliage, and its scentless blossoms white as snow. The first specimen of this plant was brought from Candia, whence its English name candy-tuft. The plant is well adapted to enliven the sombre appearance of our evergreen plantations during the winter months, if not placed near the Laurustinus, which requires no aid of this kind; for that beautiful shrub, like the iberis, seems awake whilst the rest of vegetable nature sleeps.

The warmth of our summers has very little apparent effect upon the candy-tuft; the gardener is frequently obliged to tear away the flowery veil which persists in concealing its seed.

It braves all the inclemencies of winter; and if we are reminded by its brilliancy of that of other flowers, we are less consoled for their absence, than led to regret their graces and sweet perfumes.

It is doubtless by reason of its unvarying appearance that the eastern ladies, who first ascribed the power of language to flowers, have made the iberis the emblem of indifference.

INDISCRETION.

ALMOND TREE. - AMYGDALUS COMMUNIS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, MONOGYNIA.

A very ornamental tree in Spring, putting forth its red flowers before either itself or other trees have begun to bud forth their leaves. The lower servature of the leaves of the almond tree are glandular; the flowers are sessile and solitary.

Like to an almond tree, mounted high
On top of green Selinis, all alone,
With blossoms brave bedecked daintily;
Whose tender locks do tremble every one,
At every little breath that under heaven is blown.

FAERY QUEENE.

EMBLEM of indiscretion, the almond tree is the first to answer to the call of Spring. Nothing is more lovely and fresh in its appearance than this beautiful tree, when it appears in the early days of March, covered with flowers in the midst of our groves, not yet clad in their summer foliage. The later frosts not unfrequently destroy the too precocious germs of its fruits; but it is remarkable that the beauty of its flowers, far from being injured, is increased in brilliancy. An avenue of almond trees, all white in the evening, struck with the frost in the night, will be of a rose-colour the following morning, and will retain this new attire for

more than a month, the flowers never falling until the tree is covered with verdure.

The early appearance of the almond tree seems formerly to have afforded an omen to the agriculturist. Dryden mentions it as such:

> Mark well the flow'ring almonds in the wood: If o'drous blooms the bearing branches load, The glebe will answer to the sylvan reign; Great heats will follow, and large crops of grain.

Fiction gives us an affecting account of the origin of the almond tree; it relates, that Demophoon, the son of Theseus and Phædra, when returning from the siege of Troy, was cast by a tempest on the coasts of Thrace, where the beautiful Phyllis then reigned. The young queen welcomed the prince, and becoming enamoured of him, at length married him. Demophoon was recalled to Athens by the death of his father; but promised to return to his beloved Phyllis at the expiration of a month, and fixed the day. The tender Phyllis counted every minute during his absence, until the longed-for period arrived. Phyllis ran to the shore nine times; but, having lost all hope, she died of grief, and was changed into an almond tree. Demophoon returned three days afterwards in despair; he offered a sacrifice





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on the sea-shore to appease the manes of his beloved. She appeared sensible of his repentance and his return, for the almond tree, which enclosed her in its bark, blossomed instantaneously; proving by this last effort that death had wrought no change in her affections.

INFIDELITY.

YELLOW ROSE,91 - ROSA LUTEA.

NAT. CLASS, -DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, -ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, - POLYGYNIA.

An ornamental deciduous shrub, bearing pretty single yellow flowers in June. The prickles are straight, the leaves flat or concave. The calyx nearly naked and entire.

LUDOVICO VERTHEMA tells us that, in the year 1503, he saw great quantities of yellow roses at Calicut, whence it is believed that both the single and double varieties were brought into Europe by the Turks, as Parkinson mentions that it was introduced into England by one Master Nicholas Lete, a worthy merchant of London, and a great lover of flowers, from Constantinople, which was first brought thither from Syria. It perished with Lete, but afterwards others were trans-

mitted to Master John de Frangueville, also a merchant of London, and a great lover of all rare plants, as well as flowers, from which are sprung the many varieties now flourishing in this kingdom.

It is well known that yellow is the colour of infidelity. The yellow rose also seems to appertain to the unfaithful in love or friendship. Water injures it; the sun scorches it; and this scentless flower, which profits neither by attention nor liberty, seems only to prosper when under restraint. When we wish to see them in their full brilliancy, it is necessary to incline the buds towards the earth and keep them in that position by force.

INGRATITUDE.

BUTTERCUPS.92 - RANUNCULUS ACRIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RANUNCULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — FOLYGINIA.

A perennial rooted weed, deciduous in its habit, imparting a golden hue to meadows in June and July, by the abundance of its yellow flowers. The calyx is spreading; the peduncles rounded (not furrowed); the leaves are tripartite, their segments acute, trifid, and cut; the upper ones linear.

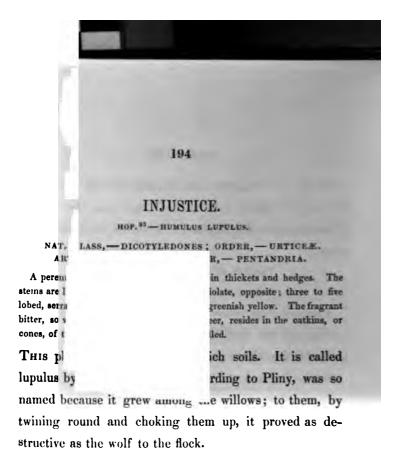
This plant contains many virulent qualities, which are said to affect cattle, especially sheep, and particularly the root, which has the property of inflaming and blistering the skin.

Shakspere mentions it as the cuckoo-flower in King Lear,—

Nettles, cuckoo-flowers, Darnel, and all the wild weeds.

And Clare, the Northampton poet, alludes to its ungrateful qualities in some lines on the "Eternity of Nature:" detailing his morning's walk, he says—

I wander out and rhyme;
What hour the dewy morning's infancy
Hangs on each blade of grass and every tree,
And sprents the red thighs of the humble bee,
Who 'gins betimes unwearied minstrelsy;
Who breakfasts, dines, and most divinely sups
With every flower save golden buttercups,—
On whose proud bosoms he will never go,
But passes by with scarcely 'How do ye do,'
Since in their showy, shining, gaudy cells,
Haply the summer's honey never dwells.



INNOCENCE.

DAISY. 94 - BELLIS PERENNIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMPOSITÆ.
ART. CLASS, — SYNGENESIA; ORDER, — SUPERFLUA.

A pretty evergreen perennial, flowering in pastures from early Spring to the end of Autumn. The scape is naked and single flowered; the leaves are spathulate, obovate, crenate.

THE English name of daisy is derived from a Saxon word, meaning day's eye, in which way Ben Jonson

writes it; and Chaucer calls it the "eie of the daie."
We presume that it is called day's eye, from the nature
of its blossom, which opens at day-break, and closes at
sunset:

The little daizie, that at evening closes.

The following address to the daisy is from Wordsworth, and we think that it will excite in all minds agreeable reminiscences of days of childhood.

In youth from rock to rock I went,
From hill to hill in discontent,
Of pleasure high and turbulent,
Most pleased when most uneasy;
But now my own delights I make,—
My thirst at every rill can slake,
And gladly Nature's love partake
Of thee, sweet daisy!

When Winter decks his few grey hairs,
Thee in the scanty wreath he wears:
Spring parts the clouds with softest airs,
That she may sun thee;
Whole summer fields are thine by right,
And Autumn, melancholy wight!
Doth in thy crimson head delight,
When rains are on thee.

In shoals and bands, a morrice train, Thou greet'st the traveller in the lane; If welcomed once thou comest again; Thou art not daunted; Nor carest if thou be set at nought; And oft alone, in nooks remote We meet thee, like a pleasant thought, When such are wanted.

The violets in their secret mews, The flowers the wanton zephyrs choose; Proud be the rose, with rains and dews Her head impearling; Thou liv'st with less ambitious name, Yet hast not gone without thy fame;

Thou art, indeed, by many a claim, The poet's darling.

If to a rock from rains he fly, Or some bright day of April's sky, Imprisoned by hot sunshine lie Near the green holly; And wearily at length should fare; He need but look about, and there Thou art! - a friend at hand, to scare

A hundred times, by rock or bower, Ere thus I have lain couch'd an hour, Have I derived from thy sweet power Some apprehension.

Some steady love; some brief delight; Some memory that had taken flight; Some charm of fancy, wrong or right;

Or stray invention.

His melancholy.

If stately passions in me burn, And one chance look to thee should turn, I drink out of an humble urn A lowlier pleasure :

The homely sympathy that heeds
The common life our nature breeds
A wisdom fitted to the needs
Of hearts at leisure.

When, smitten by the morning ray,
I see thee rise alert and gay,
Then, cheerful flower! my spirits play
With kindred gladness;
And when, at dusk, by dews opprest,
Thou sink'st, the image of thy rest
Hath often eased my pensive breast
Of careful sadness.

And all day long I number yet,
All seasons through, another debt,
Which I, wherever thou art met,
To thee am owing;
An instinct call it, a blind sense,
A happy genial influence,
Coming, one knows not how, or whence,
Nor whither going.

Child of the year! that round dost run
Thy course, bold lover of the sun,
And cheerful, when the day's begun,
As morning leveret,—
Thy long-lost praise thou shalt regain,
Dear shalt thou be to future men,
As in old time;—thou, not in vain,
Art Nature's favourite.

In Yorkshire this plant is called dog-daisy; and in Scotland gowan, a name which, in that country, is also applied to the dandelion, hawk-weed, &c.

The opening gowan, wet with dew.

We find it recorded in Milton's Comus, that

By dimpled brook and fountain brim, The wood-nymphs, decked with daisies trim, Their merry wakes and pastimes keep.

We canno Wordswor from him

lowing beautiful lines by ve quoted pretty largely r before:

o or see great world be, lk to thee, rthy.

nmon-place Of nature, with that homely face, And yet with something of a grace, Which love makes for thee.

Oft on the dappled turf at ease I sit, and play with similes, Loose types of things through all degrees, Thoughts of thy raising, And many a fond and idle name I give to thee, for praise or blame,

As is the humour of the game,

While I am gazing.

A nun demure, of lowly port, Or sprightly maiden, of love's court. In thy simplicity the sport Of all temptations; A queen in crown of rubies drest; A starveling in a scanty vest; Are all, as seems to suit thee best, Thy appellations.

A little Cyclops, with one eye,
Staring to threaten and defy,
That thought comes next—and instantly
The freak is over.
The shape will vanish, and behold
A silver shield with boss of gold,
That spreads itself, some fairy bold,
In flight to cover!

I see thee glittering from afar;

And then thou art a pretty star;

Not quite so fair as many are

In heaven above thee!

Yet like a star, with glittering crest,

Self-poised in air, thou seem'st to rest;

May peace come never to his nest

Who shall reprove thee!

Sweet flower! for by that name at last,
When all my reveries are past,
I call thee, and to that cleave fast,
Sweet silent creature!
That breath'st with me in sun and air,
Do then, as thou art wont, repair
My heart with gladness, and a share
Of thy meek nature!

"Malvina, leaning o'er Fingal's tomb, mourns for the valiant Oscar, and his son who died before he had seen the light.

"The virgins of Morven, to calm her grief, walk often around her, celebrating, by their songs, the death of the brave and the new-born.

- "'The hero is fallen,' say they; 'he is fallen! and the sound of his arms echoes over the plain; disease, which takes away courage; age, which dishonours heroes, can no longer touch him; he is fallen! and the sound of his arms echoes over the plain!
- "'Received into the heavenly palace inhabited by his ancestors, he drinks with them the cup of immortality. Oh! daughter of Oscar, dry thy tears of grief; the hero is fallen! he is fallen! and the sound of his arms echoes over the plain.'
- "Then, in a softer voice, they said again to her, 'The child who has not seen the light, has not known the bitterness of life; its young soul, borne on glittering wings, arrives with the diligent Aurora in the palace of day. The souls of children, who have, like it, broken the chains of life without sorrow, reclining on golden clouds, present themselves, and open to it the mysterious portals of Flora's cabinet. There this innocent troop, ignorant of evil, are for ever occupied in enclosing, in imperceptible seeds, the flowers that blow in each spring; every morn they scatter these seeds upon the earth with the tears of Aurora; millions of delicate hands enclose the rose in its bud, the grain of

wheat in its folds, the vast branches of the oak in a single acorn, and sometimes an entire forest in an invisible seed.'

- "'We have seen, oh! Malvina! we have seen the infant you regret, reclining on a light mist; it approached us, and has shed on our fields a harvest of new flowers. Look, oh Malvina! among these flowers we distinguish one with a golden disk, surrounded by silver leaves; a sweet tinge of crimson adorns its delicate rays; waved by a gentle wind, we might call it a little infant playing in a green meadow. Dry thy tears, oh, Malvina! the hero is dead, covered with his arms; and the flower of thy bosom has given a new flower to the hills of Cromla."
- "The sweetness of these songs relieved Malvina's grief; she took her golden harp, and repeated the hymn of the new-born.
- "Since that day the daughters of Morven have consecrated the daisy to infancy; it is, said they, the flower of innocence, the flower of the new-born."

— that old favourite—the daisy—born By millions in the balmy, vernal morn— The child's own flower.

THE SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.

Trampled under foot, The daisy lives, and strikes its little root the lap of time; centuries may come, And pass away into the silent tomb, Av still the child, hid in the womb of time, en this simple rhyme h-yard stone, 8 alone, our common date, marching state, re in his eye, iar cryf-same state infant date ; At man "

all was new,

Might smile with wonder, and take notice too;
Its little golden bosom, frilled with snow,
Might win e'en Eve to stoop adown, and show
Her partner, Adam, in the silky grass,
The little gem, that smiled where pleasure was,
And loving Eve, from Eden followed ill,
And bloomed with sorrow, and lives smiling still:
As once in Eden, under heaven's breath,
So new on earth, and on the lap of death,
It smiles for ever.

And, lil i et

CLARE.

INQUIETUDE.

MARYGOLD. 95 - CALENDULA OFFICINALIS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - COMPOSITE.
ART. CLASS, - SYNGENESIA; ORDER, - NECESSARIA.

An ornamental annual, bearing an orange-coloured flower from June to September. The seed vessels are cymbiform, all incurved, muricated.

> The marygold, that goes to bed with the sun, And with him rises weeping.

> > ANON.

Madame Lebrun, in one of her charming pictures, has represented grief as a young man pale and languishing; his head appears to be bowed down by the weight of a garland of marygolds. All the world knows this gilded flower, which has been made the emblem of distress of mind; or rather, we should say, of that inquietude which is caused by uncertainty as to the sentiments of the one we love with a peculiar affection. The lover longs to know whether there be a reciprocal feeling in the heart of his mistress towards himself, or whether he has been buoying himself up with false hope. We verily believe that there are few who would not prefer to receive the dread intelligence that his suit is rejected, than remain in this uncertain state. Anon he

speculates on the glance of kindness he thought she gave him as she passed; for, as Byron says,

> Glances beget ogles, ogles sighs, Sighs wishes, wishes words, and words a letter, Which fly on wheels of light-heeled Mercuries, Who do such things because they know no better.

And then, anon, he sees her pass without a look, without a glance, — his heart droops, and he is almost disposed to yield himself to despair.

The marygold continues in flower the whole of the year, hence its scientific name calendula. Its flowers open at nine o'clock in the morning, and close again at three o'clock in the afternoon. Like the heliotrope, it always turns towards the sun, following his course from east to west.

During the months of July and August, the marygold emits small luminous sparks during the night. This quality it possesses in common with the narsturtium and many other flowers of the same colour.

The mournful signification of the marygold can be modified in various ways. United with roses, it is the emblem of the sweeter pains of love; alone, it expresses inquietude or *ennui*. Woven with other flowers, it represents the inconstant chain of life, ever good and evil interwoven. In the East, a bouquet of marygolds and poppies expresses this thought, "I will allay your pains." It is especially by these modifications that the Sentiment of Flowers renders the interpretation of our thoughts understood.

Margaret of Orleans, maternal ancestor of Henry IV., had for her device, a marygold turning towards the sun, with these words, "Je ne veux suivre que lui seul." That virtuous princess wished to express by this device that all her thoughts and all her affections turned towards Heaven, as the marygold does to the sun.

INSPIRATION.

ANGELICA, 96 - ANGELICA SYLVESTRIS.

NAT. CLASS, - MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - UMBELLIFERÆ.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - DIGYNIA.

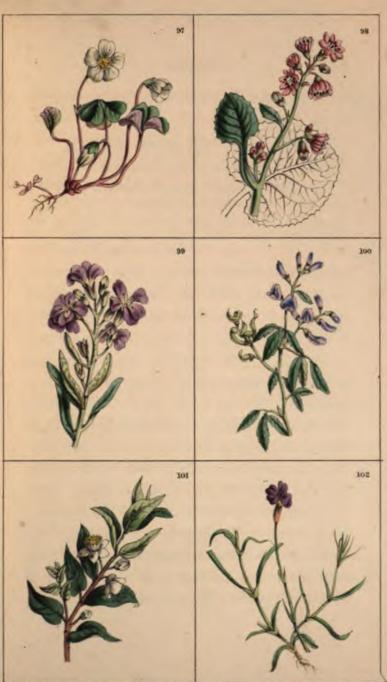
A perennial weed, found in moist woods and marshy places. It flowers in July. The leaflets are equal, ovate, serrated at the base, somewhat lobed; fruit with the interstices of the ridges having single vittæ.

This plant is named angelica, in allusion to its agreeable smell and medicinal qualities. It has winged leaves divided into large segments; its stalks are hollow and jointed, the flowers grow in an umbel upon the tops of the stalks, and consist of five leaves, succeeded by two large channeled seeds. Archangelica is sometimes cultivated in gardens for its leaf-stalks, to be blanched and eaten as celery, or candied with sugar. In Lapl: und, it is used to crown poets, when the many constraints agreeable odour.

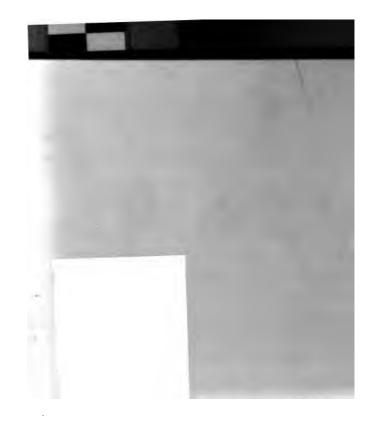
VOOD-SORREL - - Land IS ACETOSELLA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLE DONES; ORDER, — OXALIDER.
ART. CLASS, — DECANDRIA; ORDER, — PENTAGYNIA.

A bulbous plant, perennial, culinary. The leaves are all radical, ternate; leafstalks long and slender; leaflets inversely heart-shaped, hairy; scape, single-flowered; root, scaly. Flowers handsome, drooping, white. The wood-sorrel, vulgarly called "cuckoo's bread," flowers very freely about Easter. This pretty little plant shuts its leaves, closes its corollas, and the flowers hang pendent and drooping from the stems at night. They seem to yield themselves to sleep; but at the first dawn of day we may say that they are filled with joy, for they throw back their leaves, and expand their flowers; and we doubt not it is on this account that peasants have said that they sing the praises of their Creator.



J. Andreas, del & Ernce



JUSTICE SHALL BE DONE YOU.

SWEET-SCENTED TUSSILAGE, OR COLTSFOOT. 98 - TUSSILAGO FRAGRANS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMPOSITE.

ART. CLASS, — SYNGENESIA; ORDER, — SUPERFLUA.

An ornamental frame perennial, having white flowers from January to March. Thyrsus, fastigiate; heads, radiant; leaves, roundish heartshaped, equally toothed, downy beneath.

Genius, hid under a modest appearance, strikes not the eyes of the vulgar. But if the glance of an enlightened judge chances to observe it, its strength is immediately revealed, and it receives the admiration of those whose stupid indifference had not observed it. A young Dutch miller, having a taste for painting, amused himself, in his leisure hours, by representing the landscapes amidst which he lived. The mill, the cattle of his master, the beautiful verdure, clouds, smoke, light and shade, were all pourtrayed with an exquisite truth. As soon as a picture was finished, he took it to a colour-dealer, who gave him its value in materials to produce another. One feast-day, the innkeeper of the place, wishing to ornament the hall where he received his guests, bought two of these pictures. A celebrated painter stopped at his inn, and, admiring the truth of the landscapes, offered and gave a hundred florins for that which had not cost a crown, and promised, at the same time, to take all the artist could produce. Thus the reputation of the painter was established, and his fortune made. As wise as happy, he never forgot his dear mill; we find the representation of it in all his pictures, which are so many masterpieces. Who would believe that plants have the same fate as men, and that they require a patron to appreciate them?

Coltsfoot, notwithstanding its sweet smell, had remained a long time unknown at the foot of Mount Pila, where no doubt it would still have bloomed in obscurity, if a learned botanist, M. Villau de Grenoble had not appreciated its beneficent qualities. This perfumed plant appears at a season when all others have disappeared. As the great artist eulogised the poor painter, so did M. Villau the humble flower; he gave it a distinguished rank in his works, and since then the tussilage has been cultivated with care, and perfumes our brilliant saloons.

KEEP YOUR PROMISES.

PLUM-TREE.

EVERY year the plum-tree is covered with an immense quantity of flowers, but unless trained and pruned by the hand of an able gardener of all its superfluous wood, it will only yield fruit once in three years.

LASTING BEAUTY.

GILLYFLOWER, 99 - MATHIOLA INCANA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - CRUCIFERE. ART. CLASS, - TETRADYNAMIA; ORDER, - SILICULOSA.

An ornamental evergreen undershrub, bearing a pretty purple flower from May to November. The stem is shrubby at the base, erect, branched. The leaves are lanceolate, entire, hoary. The pods are somewhat cylinder-shaped, without glands.

Fair is the gillyflower of garden sweet.

GAY.

THE Greeks, who cherished flowers, never acquired the art of cultivating and improving them. They simply planted them in the fields, and received as nature yielded them. The Romans, with the arts of Greece, also

received a taste for flowers; and such was their passion for floral crowns, that they were obliged to confine their use to a favoured few. These masters of the world cultivated nothing but violets and roses,—the fields were cov

rapidly c

Their wa With ther of the family, co as were useful for cum. the handle of the plough. the charge of the mistress aromatic plants, and such purposes. At length, their

manners became softened, and Charlemagne, who was the terror of the world, and the father of his people, delighted in flowers, and recommended the culture of lilies, roses, and gillyflowers. Foreign flowers were not introduced among us till the thirteenth century. During the crusades, European warriors brought us many new species from Egypt and Syria, of which the monks, at that time the only able cultivators, took charge. They were at first the charm of their peaceful retreats; since then they are scattered over every flower-bed; they are become the companions of our pleasures, and add to the luxuries of our mansions. Still the rose is the queen of our groves, and the lily the king of our valleys. The

rosebuds are transient; and the lily, though it flowers more tardily, passes away almost as rapidly. The gilly-flower—less graceful than the rose,—less superb than the lily,—has a splendour more durable. Constant in its benefits, it offers to us, all the year, its beautiful red and pyramidal flowers, which always diffuse an agreeable odour. The finest gillyflowers are red; they derive their name from their colour, which rivals in brilliancy the far-famed purple of Tyre. White, violet, and variegated gillyflowers have also their charms; but since America, Asia, and Africa, have sent their brilliant tributes, we have neglected the beautiful daughter of our own climate, so dear to our forefathers. Towards the setting of the sun a delightful fragrance is exhaled from this

Lavish stock, that scents the garden round.

THOMSON.

This beautiful flower may be said to grow in our parterres, like a blooming and lovely beauty, who scatters health around her; health, that chief of blessings, without which there can be neither happiness nor lasting beauty.

LIFE.

LUCERN, 100 - MEDICAGO SATIVAL

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, LEGUMINOSE.
ART IIA; ORDER, DECANDRIA-

An agric July. Pe entire ; le

LUCERN but wher has been

charming than a nex-

IA; ORDER, DECANDRIA.

ground for a long period, for ever. On this account it a of life. Nothing is more

ern in full flower. It seems

es, loosely spirally-twisted; stipules

spread before our eyes like a carpet of green and violet. Cherished by the husbandman, it yields him an abundant crop, without much care; and, when mowed, it springs up again. The cattle rejoice at its appearance; it is a favourite plant with the sheep; and the goat receives it as a delicacy; while the horse also eats it with avidity. This precious gift is showered upon our favoured land direct from heaven. We possess it without trouble,—enjoy it without reflection,—and without gratitude. We frequently prefer to it a flower whose only merit is its transient beauty. So do we often leave a certain happiness, to pursue vain pleasures which continually clude our grasp.

LOVE.

MYRTLE, 101 - MYRTUS COMMUNIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — MYRTACE &.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A very ornamental evergreen, bearing a white flower in July and August. The flowers are solitary; the involucre two-leaved.

> See, rooted in the earth, her kindly bed, The unendangered myrtle, decked with flowers, Before the threshold stands to welcome us!

WORDSWORTH.

The oak has ever been consecrated to Jupiter,—the laurel to Apollo,—the olive to Minerva,—and the myrtle to Venus. Among the ancients the myrtle was a great favourite, for its elegance and its sweet and glossy ever-green foliage. Its perfumed and delicate flowers seem destined to adorn the fair forehead of love, and are said to have been made the emblem of love, and dedicated to beauty, when Venus first sprang from the sea. We are informed by mythological writers, that when the fair goddess first appeared upon the waves, she was preceded by the Hours, with a scarf of a thousand colours and a garland of myrtle.

Wordsworth appropriates myrtle-wreaths to youthful

heads, and conjures them to drop from those of declining years,

> Fall, rosy garlands, from my head! Ye myrtle-wreaths, your fragrance shed Around a younger brow!

And Hartley Coleridge, in a paraphrase on Horace, thus introduces the myrtle as a fit decoration for the brow of youth,

Nay, nay, my boy—'tis not for me,
This studious pomp of Eastern luxury;
Give me no various garlands,—fine
With linden twine;
Nor seek, when latest lingering blows
The solitary rose.

Earnest I beg—add not with toilsome pain,—
One far-sought blossom to the myrtle plain,
For sure, the fragrant myrtle bough
Looks seemliest on thy brow;
Nor me mis-seems, while, underneath the vine,
Close interweaved, I quaff the rosy-wine.

At Rome, the first temple dedicated to Venus was surrounded by groves of myrtle: and after the victory that goddess achieved over Pallas and Juno, she was crowned with myrtle by Cupids. Surprised one day, on going out of a bath, by a troop of satyrs, she took refuge behind a myrtle bush; she also avenged herself with myrtle branches on the audacious Psyche, who had

dared to compare her own transitory graces to those of an immortal beauty.

Although triumphs are no longer celebrated in the Roman capitol, the Italian ladies have preserved a very lively passion for this lovely shrub, preferring its odour to that of the most precious essences, and throwing into their baths water distilled from its leaves, being persuaded that the tree of Venus is favourable to beauty. If the ancients had that idea,—if the tree so consecrated to Venus were to them the tree of love,—it was from the true analogy between its power and that of love; for wherever the myrtle grows it spreads itself around, to the exclusion of all other shrubs. So love, once master of a heart, leaves no room for any other sentiment. Scott has borne his testimony to the universality of love:

In peace, love tunes the shepherd's reed; In war, he mounts the warrior's steed; In halls, in gay attire is seen; In hamlets, dances on the green: Love rules the court, the camp, the grove, And men below, and saints above; For love is heaven, and heaven is love.

LIVELY AND PURE AFFECTION.

PINK. 102 - DIANTHUS PROLIFER.

NAT. CLAS AR

A pret tures. T ovate, bb serrulate.

; ORDER. - CARYOPHYLLEE A; ORDER, - DIGYNIA.

cessionally found in gravelly pussitate; the scales of the ealyx are than the tube. The leaves are

its choicest sweet, to meet.

MARY ROBINSON.

Aurora's

THE primitive pink is simple red or white, and perfumed. We occasionally observe where

> - the wild pink crowns the garden wall, Aud with the flowers are intermingled stones Sparry and bright, rough scatterings of the hills. WORDSWORTH.

Cultivation has doubled the petals of this favourite flower, and procured for it an infinite variety of colouring, so that it is painted with a thousand shades, from the delicate rose-colour to the perfect white: and from a deep red to a brilliant scarlet. In some varieties we observe opposite colours placed together on the same flower: the pure white is tipped with crimson, and the rose-coloured is streaked with lively and brilliant red. We also see these beautiful flowers marbled, speckled, and at other times bisected in such a manner, that the deceived eye leads us to imagine that the same cup contains a purple flower, and one of palest alabaster. Nearly as varied in form as in colour, the pink always preserves its delicious perfumes, and continually labours to shed its foreign costume, and renew its native attire. For though the hand of the gardener can double and triple, and variegate its dress, it cannot render its acquired qualities permanent. Thus nature has deposited in our hearts the germs of the most excellent sentiments. Art and society cultivate and develope these, embellishing, enfeebling, or exalting them. A variety of causes uniting, are able to render their effects inconstant and changeable; but, in spite of the caprices, errors, and incomprehensible sports of the human heart, nature always brings back affection to its primitive simplicity. La Rochefocault has said, that "True love is like the apparition of spirits; all the world speaks of it, but few have seen it." What does the gloomy moralist mean by true love? Would he persuade us that it is a chimera? Ah! no! we find

218

THE SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.

True love's the gift which God has given To man alone beneath the heaven.

is the secret sympathy,

nd to mind,

There shows how by the arts or nattery.

with the pink, which ed away and debased

"The young duke of Burgundy, grandson of Louis the Fifteenth, being fond of cultivating these flowers, a flatterer persuaded him, by substituting other pots of pinks for those which the prince had reared, that the pinks which he planted came up and flourished in one night. Thus persuaded, the youthful prince believed that Nature obeyed his will. One night, not being able to sleep, he expressed a wish to get up, but was told it was then the middle of the night; 'Well,' replied he, 'I will have it be day.'"

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LUXURY.

HORSE CHESTNUT. 103 - ESCULUS HIPPOCASTANUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — HIPPOCASTANEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — HEPTANDRIA; ORDER, MONAGYNIA.

A timber tree, presenting a most gorgeous appearance in April and May, with its clusters of white flowers. The leaves are digitate; the petals are five, spreading.

This magnificent tree was originally brought from India, and has been naturalized in Europe for more than two centuries, but yet we do not see it raise its gorgeous head among our forest trees. It is well suited to be an ornament in parks; to adorn the castles of our nobility; and to shade the residence of kings; and when the geometric style of architecture was in vogue in this country, a good deal was planted, as at Bushy Park, Canons, Castle Howard, &c. It luxuriates at the Tuilleries, where it rises around the great basin in masses of incomparable beauty. At the Luxembourg it spreads its branches in accordant pomp and splendour,

There avenues of chestnuts high With vaulted roofs conceal the sky.

In the beginning of spring, one rainy day is sufficient to cause this beautiful tree to cover itself with verdure. If it be planted alone, nothing surpasses the elegance of its pyramidal form, the beauty of its foliage, or the richness of its flowers, which sometimes make it appear as an immense lustre or chandelier, all covered with pearls. Fond of ostentation and richness, it covers with flowers the grass which it o'ershadows, and yields to the idler a most delightful shade. To the poor man it is of little service, supplying him with nothing more than a light and porous timber, and a bitter fruit. Naturalists and physicians have attributed to this child of Asia a thousand good qualities which it does not possess.

MAJESTY.

CROWN IMPERIAL. 104 - FRITILLARIA IMPERIALIS.

NAT. CLASS, - MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - LILIACEÆ. ART. CLASS, - HEXANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

A bulbous-rooted perennial, bearing large ornamental flowers in March and April. Raceme comose, naked below; the leaves entire.

> Bold oxlip, and The crown imperial; lilies of all kinds; The flower-de-luce being one.

WINTER'S TALE.

This noble flower is said to have been introduced into England in the time of Shakspere, who has introduced it, as above, in his Winter's Tale.

On this family of plants modern botanists have bestowed the name of Fritillaria, of which this, from its commanding deportment and brilliant colours, is considered the sovereign.

The lily's height bespoke command,
A fair imperial flower;
She seemed designed for Flora's hand,
The sceptre of her power.

We have therefore elevated this distinguished member of Flora's kingdom to be the emblem of majesty, and the representative of power in our floral Sentiments.

MATERNAL LOVE.

A TUFT OF MOSS. 105

J. J. Rousseau was ardently fond of the study of botany; and of all plants the family of mosses delighted him most. He would often remark that they gave an air of youth and freshness to our fields, adorning nature when flowers had vanished. The stunted stems of dead and leafless trees are oft clad with a mossy verdure. Wordsworth reminds us of this in some lines entitled "The Thorn:"—

THE SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.

Not higher than a two year's child, It stands erect, this aged thorn. No leaves it has, no thorny points; It is a mass of knotted joints, A wretched thing forlorn.

stone,

of moss.

III

There is a 1 A beauteous ... thorn, sight, moss,

Just half a foot in height.

All lovely colours there you see,
All colours that were ever seen;
And mossy network, too, is there,
As if by hand of lady fair
The work had woven been;
And cups, the darlings of the eye,
So deep is their vermilion dye.

Ah me! what lovely tints are these, Of olive green and scarlet bright: In spikes, in branches, and in stars, Green, red, and pearly white!

Like to those friends whose affection ceases not when misfortune assails us, and whose kind services even ingratitude cannot repel, the mosses, exiled from cultivated fields, advance towards the barren and untilled land, which they cover with their own substance, and by degrees transform it into a fruitful soil. In winter it is said that they are charged with hydrogen and carbon, so as to infect the air; but in summer, beds of moss are formed in the umbrageous shades of forests and plantations, where the shepherd, the lover, and the poet, are equally delighted to repose; and we may add, with Carrington, the traveller too—

Here traveller rest thee, for the sun is high,
And thou art old and weary. It is sweet
To find, at noon, a moorland bank like this,
To press its luxury of moss, and bid
The hours fleet by on burning wing. Awhile
Repose thou in the shade, this stunted tree,
Grasp'd by the choking ivy—of his race
The last,—has foliage yet enough to screen
Thine ardent brow; and just below, a brook
Fresh from the ever-living spring, presents
Its purest crystal to thy lip.

The little birds use the delicate moss in the formation of their nests. Is this instinct? Yea, truly the instinct of maternal care, and maternal tenderness, implanted by nature in the light-winged inhabitants of the air. Clare shall tell us of the thrush preparing her nest

Within a thick and spreading hawthorn bush, That overhangs a molehill large and round, I heard, from morn to morn, a merry thrush Sing hymns to sunrise, and I drank the sound With joy; and, often an intruding guest, I watched her secret toils from day to day—How true she warped the moss, to form a nest, And modelled it within with wood and clay; And by and by, like heath-bells gilt with dew, There lay her shining eggs, as bright as flowers, Ink-spotted over shells of greeny blue; And then I witnessed, in the sunny hours, A brood of nature's minstrels chirp and fly, Glad as that sunshine, and the laughing sky.

The squirrel also uses it in the construction of its circular abode.

The Laplanders, we are told, protect themselves from the rigours of winter by covering their subterraneous dwellings with moss; their numerous herds of rein-deer know no other food; yet they yield their owners a delicious milk, a succulent flesh, and warm skins; affording the poor Laplander all the benefits we derive from the cow, the horse, and the sheep. On the appearance of the aurora borealis, which cheers their long nights, the Laplanders assemble around poles, and celebrate, to the beating of the tambour, the virtues, or warlike deeds of their forefathers; whilst their wives are seated near them, cherishing, in moss cradles, their little infants, enveloped in ermine. Beneficent nature, in those dreary climes, surrounds every thing with mosses, to preserve her children from the biting frosts, and to nourish them upon her maternal bosom.

MELANCHOLY.

WEEPING WILLOW. - SALIX BABYLONICA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICCTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMENTACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — DICCIA; ORDER, — MONANDRIA.

An elegant tree. The leaves are lanceolate, taper-pointed, sharply serrated, smooth, glaucous beneath; stipules, half-ovate, taper-pointed, revolute; catkins, naked, accompanying the leaves; ovary, ovate, sessile, smooth; the branches pendulous.

By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, when we remembered thee, O Sion! As for our harps, we hanged them up upon the willows that are therein.

PSALMS.

WE cannot conceive a more touching appeal to human sympathy, than the mournful complaints of the daughters of Jerusalem. Their Babylonish conquerors, having led them away captive, required of them a "song and melody in their heaviness; 'Sing us one of the songs of Sion.'" But the hearts of her children were surcharged with grief, and they asked, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" They were oppressed

with sorrow,— they were bowed down with affliction,—
they "hanged their harps upon the willows, and sat
down and wept." Is not then the weeping willow a
sacred emblem of melancholy?

My gentle harp! once more I waken

The sweetness of thy slumbering strain;
In tears our last farewell was taken,

And now in tears we meet again.

No light of joy hath o'er thee broken,
But—like those harps, whose heav'nly skill
Of slavery, dark as thine, hath spoken—
Thou hang'st upon the willows still.

The weeping willow is a native of the East, and is greatly admired for its drooping pendulous branches, waving over our lakes and streams.

> Thus o'er our streams do Eastern willows lean In pensive guise; whose grief-inspiring shade, Love has to melancholy sacred made.

> > DELILLE.

It grows wild on the coast of Persia, and is common in China. The celebrated specimen in Pope's garden at Twickenham, is said to have been the first introduced into England; but this we believe to be erroneous. The poet chanced to be present on the opening of a package which came from Spain and, observing that the sticks

had some vegetation, fancied they might produce something which we did not possess in England. With this idea he planted a cutting, from whence sprang the parent tree of many of our finest and most admired specimens.

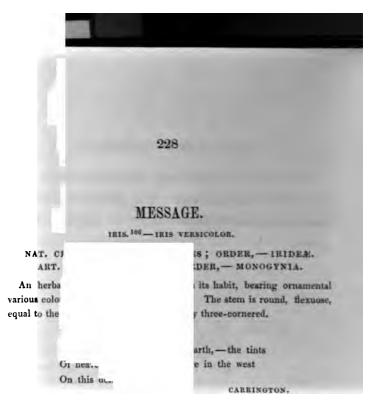
MELANCHOLY SPIRIT.

SORROWFUL GERANIUM.

Few know that elegance of soul refined, Whose soft sensation feels a quicker joy From melancholy's scenes, than the dull pride Of tasteless splendour and magnificence Can e'er afford.

WARTON.

This charming geranium, like a melancholy spirit, shuns the light of day; but it enchants those who cultivate it by the delightful perfumes it exhales. Its appearance is sombre, though unaffected; and, altogether, it forms a striking contrast to the scarlet geranium, which is the emblem of stupidity.



This plant is supposed to have been named after Juno's attendant, because its colours are similar to those bestowed on the messenger of that goddess, by poets and mythological writers.

The various Iris, Juno sends with haste.

Iris is usually portrayed as descending from a rainbow; and the eye of heaven (Plutarch says that is the meaning of the word Iris) is not more variegated than the flower that has been honoured by her name.

> Iris, on saffron wings arrayed with dew Of various colours, through the sunbeams flew.

VIRGIL.

In England there are above fifty species of this plant, many having bulbous roots. The beautiful Iris has ever been considered to be the bearer of agreeable intelligence.

MILD, OR SWEET DISPOSITION.

MALLOW. 107 - MALVA SYLVESTRIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — MALVACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONADELPHIA; ORDER, — POLYANDRIA.

A medicinal plant, perennial in its duration, bearing a purplish flower from June to August. The stem is erect, herbaceous; the leaves have five to seven rather acute lobes; the peduncles and petioles are hairy.

Who cut up mallows by the bushes, and juniper roots for their meat.

From the above passage we learn that the mallow was used for food by those nomadic tribes who have always pitched their tents in the desert in preference to dwelling in fixed habitations, where it would have been their duty to cultivate the earth in order to multiply the benefits of nature.

This plant was also eaten, boiled, by the Greeks and Romans, and in salads, with lettuce and other vegetables; it is still used by the Chinese and the Egyptians. 230

THE SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.

It grows, naturally, by the rivulet's side; and is of easy culture in any common garden soil. Its appearance is graceful and pleasing; and its rose-coloured flowers harmonise with its loaves and branches, the whole plant being cover red silky down. It is equally agr as to the touch. Its flowers. d its roots are all useful. We us juices, syrups, pastilles, and to health, and agreeable to the palate. used it on account of its medicinal qualities.

> Shards or mallows for the pot, That keep the loosened body sound.

DRYDEN.

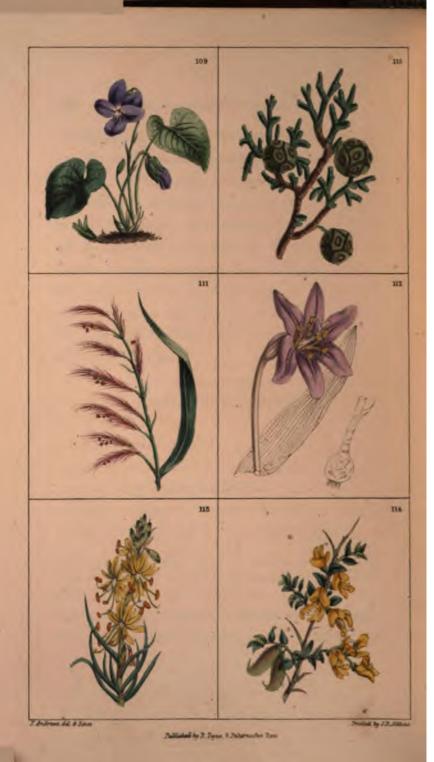
MISANTHROPY.

TEASEL. 108 - DIPSACUS FULLONUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — DIPSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — TETRANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An agricultural biennial. Flowers, in July, purplish white. The leaves are subconnate; the scales of the receptacle are hooked at the extremity; the involucres spreading (reflexed).

THE flowers of the teasel are bristled with long sharp thorns, and the whole plant has an air of severity; yet



it is useful and beautiful. The clothiers use it to raise the nap upon woollen cloths, by means of the crooked awns or chaffs upon the heads.

MODESTY.

BLUE VIOLET. 109 - VIOLA ODORATA PURPUREA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — VIOLACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A fragrant evergreen creeper. The leaves are cordate, and, as well as the petioles, nearly glabrous; the calyx leaves are obtuse; the lateral petals with a hairy line; the scions, creeping.

Violets, whose looks are like the skies.

BARRY CORNWALL.

This beautiful flower is known to all who have breathed the pure air of British fields. They could not pass along our hedge-rows in spring without inhaling its fragrant perfume, though its tiny head is so completely hid beneath its humble foliage that it seldom meets the eye of the careless passer-by. Yet, although unheeded,

Gentle gales,

Fanning their odoriferous wings, dispense Native perfumes, and whisper whence they stole These balmy spoils.

MILTON.

Let us entreat our friends who would seek for the purest and most healthy pleasures, to rise with the sun, and accept the invitation of Elliot to

> Walk where hawthorns hide The wonders of the lane,

and then — but Howitt, in all his freshness, shall tell you what delight you will meet with. — "All unexpectedly, in some embowered lane, you are arrested by the delicious odour of violets, those sweetest of Flora's children, which have furnished so many beautiful allusions to the poets, and which are not yet exhausted; they are like true friends, we do not know half their sweetness till they have felt the sunshine of our kindness; and again, they are like the pleasures of our childhood, the earliest and the most beautiful. In March they are seen in all their glory—blue and white—modestly peering through their thick-clustering leaves."

Barry Cornwall places the violet before the rose in the following lines. True it is that modesty, of which quality it is the universal emblem, is more to be desired than beauty, but we must ever acknowledge the rose as the queen of flowers.

It has a scent as though Love, for its dower, Had on it all his odorous arrows test; For though the rose has more perfuming power The violet (haply 'cause 'tis almost lost, And takes us so much trouble to discover), Stands first with most, but always with a lover.

It is interesting to notice how widely the violet is distributed over the blooming world. They spring at the foot of the Alps, and bloom on the very summit of the Alleghanies;— their sweets are borne upon the spicy gales of Araby the blest; and they put forth their cerulean flowers in the Persian gardens of roses. Humboldt gathered them in the valleys of the Amazon, and on the sides of the lofty Andes. The most lovely flowers are the most simple, and plainly the favourites of nature, for they are the most widely diffused.

It was a thought, as delicate as it was beautiful, which suggested the modest violet as a poetical reward. A golden violet was announced as the prize to be decreed to the author of the best poem in the Provençal language, in 1324.

And in that golden vase was set The prize—the golden violet.

THE TROUBADOUR.

MOURNING.

CYPRESS.110 - CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CONIFERE.
ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, — MONADELPHIA.

An ornamental evergreen tree. The branches are quadrangular; the leaves imbricate in four rows, blunt, approximate, convex; the cones are subglobose—the scales, unarmed; the branches are straight.

> The mournful cypress rises round, Tapering from the burial ground.

LUCAN.

THE cypress is the universal emblem of mourning, and is the funeral tree of the Eastern world, from the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea; it is also dedicated to the dead, from Mazanderan to Constantinople, as well as to the utmost bounds of China's fruitful shores.

Ovid gives us a traditionary account of the mournful origin of the cypress-tree, and we always find it devoted to mournful thoughts, or sad solemnities. Cyparissus, son of Telephus of Cea, was beloved by Apollo. Having killed the favourite stag of his friend, he grieved, pined, and, dying, was changed by Apollo into a cypress-tree. Calmet describes it to be a tall, straight tree, having bitter leaves. The shade and smell were said to be dangerous; hence the Romans looked on it as a fatal

tree, and made use of it at funerals. It is an evergreen; the wood is heavy, of rather a fragrant smell,—is not liable to be attacked by insects, and does not speedily decay. Shakspere says that cypress is the emblem of mourning; and we are told by Irving that, in Latium, on the decease of any person, a branch of cypress was placed before the door. It is strictly the "sorrowing-tree;" nor do we ask with Prior,

Why does the cypress flourish in the shade?

for there is scarcely any poet who does not write of it in mournful sadness. Spenser records it as "the cypress funeral;" and Miss Landon observes,

> A funeral train Will in a cypress grove be found.

And again,

The moon is o'er a grove of cypress trees, Weeping like mourners.

And Byron asks,

Ah! why
With cypress branches hast thou wreathed thy bowers?

Mournful as is the wreath, we find it bestowed, a sad memorial, by the hand of friendship:—

THE SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.

O'er ruined shrines and silent tombs,
The weeping cypress spreads its glooms,
In immortality of woe,
Whilst other shrubs in gladness blow,
And fling upon the passing wind
Their confined.

And v coping leaf,
May i cm and grief,
Which gave reply,
From fewy eye:

Then ath for me,
Plucked and cypress-tree.

WIFFEN.

In Turkey, the custom anting the cypress-tree over the tombs of departed friends is still religiously adhered to; and in performing this duty they are careful to select the upright variety, as they suppose it to indicate that the soul of their friend has ascended to the regions of bliss.

Peace to the dust that in silence reposes

Beneath the dark shades of cypress and yew;

Let spring deck the spot with her earliest roses,

And heaven wash their leaves with its holiest dew.

PIERPONT.

MUSIC.

REEDS. 111 - ARNUDO PHRAGMITES.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — GRAMINEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — TRIANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

An economical plant, perennial, common in ditches. The glumes are five flowered; the florets very little longer than the glumes.

> Arcadian pipe, the pastoral reed Of Hermes.

MILTON.

Pan, being enamoured of the beautiful Syrinx, pursued her one day to the borders of the river Ladon, in Arcadia. The nymph implored the help of the river, which received her into its waters, and metamorphosed her into reeds. It is recorded that Pan cut several of these reeds of different sizes, and formed thereof the first shepherd's pipe.

MY BEST DAYS ARE PAST.

MEADOW SAFFRON. 112 - COLCHICUM AUTUMNALE.

NAT. CLASS, - MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - MELANTHACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - HEXANDRIA; ORDER, - TRIGYNIA.

A medicinal plant, bulbous root, perennial, flowering in Autumn; the leaves are plane, broadly lanceolate, erect.

WHEN summer is rapidly departing, this flower, which

closely resembles the spring-saffron, is seen in bloom amid the verdure of our meadows. It is the autumnal colchicum; and though like the spring-saffron in appearance, how unlike in its import! the former brings us joy and hope, while the latter announces the speedy termination of the bright and lovely days of summer.

The ancients believed that, coming from the fields of Colchis, it owed its birth to some drops of the magic liquor Medea is said to have prepared, in order to restore the aged Æson to the vigour of youth. This fabulous origin led many to suppose, for a long period, that the plant was a sure preservative against all manner of diseases. The Swiss encircle the necks of their children with this flower, and believe that they protect them from every evil. The false opinion of the marvellous virtues of this plant has misled the wisest men; and it required all the experience of Haller to dissipate the vain superstitions of the ignorant.

The flower has neither leaves nor stalks. A long tube, white as ivory, is its only support; the flowers die off in October, and leave no external appearance of seeds. "These lie buried all the winter within the bulb; in spring they grow up on a fruit-stalk, and are ripe about the time of hay-harvest." "As this plant

blossoms late in the year, and probably would not have time to ripen its seeds before winter, Providence has so framed its structure, that it may be performed at a depth within the earth, out of the reach of the usual effects of frost; and as seeds buried at such a depth are known not to vegetate, a no less admirable provision is made to raise them above the surface when they are perfected, and to sow them at a proper season." It thus mingles its fruits with the flowers of spring, and its flowers with the fruits of autumn; at all times the lambs shun it, and the young shepherdess becomes melancholy at the sight of it; so the melancholy-hearted oft weaves a wreath of its pale blue flowers, consecrating it to the memory of happy days which have fled to return no more.

MY REGRETS FOLLOW YOU TO THE GRAVE.

ASPHODEL.115 - ASPHODELUS LUTEUS.

NAT. CLASS, - MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - ASPHODELEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - HEXANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

An evergreen herbaceous plant, perennial, ornamental, bearing yellow flowers in May and June. The stem is leafy; the leaves are threecornered, and are striated.

THE yellow and white species of this elegant plant are

old inhabitants of our gardens, are of very easy culture, and increase rapidly. The latter species covers immense tracts of land in Apulia, and affords very good nourishment to the sheep. It was sacred to Proserpine, and anciently used in funeral ceremonies; and it was believed that, beyond the Acheron, the shades of the departed walked in vast meadows of Asphodel, where they drank the waters of oblivion.

NEATNESS.

BROOM, 114 - SPARTIUM SCOPARIUM.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - LEGUMINOSÆ.

ART. CLASS, - DIADELPHIA; ORDER, - DECANDRIA.

An ornamental and economical evergreen shrub. The leaves are ternate and solitary, oblong; flowers, axillary; the pods are hairy at the edge; the branches are angular.

> 'Twas that delightful season, when the broom Full flowered, and visible on every steep, Along the copses runs in veins of gold.

> > WORDSWORTH.

THERE are many useful species of this beautiful plant. "The broom" says Mr. Martyn, "converts the most barren spot into an odoriferous garden." Wordsworth notices it in the following natural and beautiful lines:—

On me such beauty summer pours,
That I am covered o'er with flowers;
And when the frost is in the sky,
My branches are so fresh and gay,
That you might look at me and say,
This plant can never die.
The butterfly, all green and gold,
To me hath often flown,
Here in my blossoms to behold
Wings lovely as his own.

Burns introduces the yellow broom in his Caledonia.

Their groves of sweet myrtle let foreign lands reckon, Where bright beaming summers exalt the perfume; Far dearer to me you lone glen o' green breckan, Wi' the burn stealing under the lang yellow broom.

It is said, that when Linnæus came to England in 1736, he was so much delighted with the golden bloom of the furze, which he saw for the first time on the commons near London, that he fell on his knees enraptured at the sight.

The Spanish broom is cultivated with us for the beauty and perfume of its flowers. It approaches nearer to the size of a tree than a shrub, and continuing in blossom from July to October, it is a great enlivener of our gardens, which at the latter season are but scantily provided with gay flowers.

Cowper has, with many other fine plants, also noticed the broom:—

Hypericum, all bloom, so thick a swarm

Of flowers, libe flor alathing her slender rods,
That scarce zereon too,
I de thick beset
With blush g every spray;
Althes, with to
Yellow a nalloyed,
Her blos

Sweet blooms ger

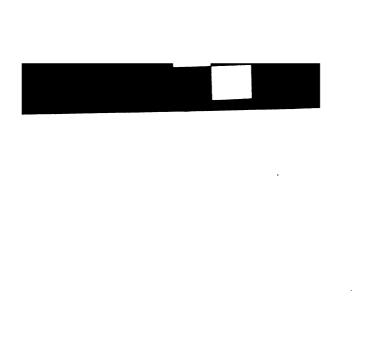
myrtle shade.

DARWIN.

NIGHT.

NIGHT CONVOLVULUS.

THERE are several species of this beautiful plant which open only at night. They are chiefly natives of hot countries.



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OBSTACLE.

REST HARROW.115 - ONONIS SPINOSA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LEGUMINOSÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIADELPHIA; ORDER, — DECANDRIA.

An unattractive plant. The flowers are twin axillary; the lower leaves are ternate, lanceolate, serrate; the branches spiny, villous.

This is called ononis, from onos, an ass, because asses only feed upon this prickly plant. "It was formerly very troublesome in corn fields, on account of its long ligneous roots obstructing the progress of the plough, and its thorny branches the harrow;" and on this account it has been made the emblem of obstacle: "but in all properly cultivated lands the plant has disappeared."

ORNAMENT.

HORNBEAM. 116 - CARPINUS BETULUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, AMENTACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, — POLYANDRIA.

A timber tree, common in woods and hedges; rather small. The leaves, which are beautifully plaited when young, are ovate or subcordate, doubly serrated, acute; and the veins of the leaves are somewhat hairy. The scales of the fruit are oblong, serrated, with two smaller lateral lobes.

THE introduction of so many exotic shrubs and trees

within the last century has banished some of our native plants from the grove, while fashion has entirely removed the hornbeam, of which the labyrinth, the maze, the alleys, the verdant galleries, arcades, porticoes, and arches of our forefathers were made.

The French have made it the emblem of ornament, from the splendid effect produced by its judicious training in the hands of Le Notre, in the gardens of Versailles. "These gardens," says Mr. Philips, "which cost Louis the Fourteenth between eight and nine hundred thousand pounds sterling, are well calculated to display courtly pomp, and that kind of magnificent revelry, which this monarch indulged in. But to us this heavy grandeur appears more gloomy than the thickest forests, except when the alleys and walks are crowded with company, and the water-works are in full action. Then every beholder must be struck with the splendour of the scene, which the dress of the French ladies is particularly calculated to improve; for the gaiety of their costume relieves the sombre appearance of the trained hornbeam and clipped elm. Their light gauze, gay ribands, feathers and flowers, substitute blossoms; for, whilst one seems to display a basket of roses on her head, others carry nodding thyrsuses of lilac, or waving laburnum; and with the mixture of poppies, nasturtiums, and sunflowers, with which they are bedecked, you forget that the trees are without blossom, for here you see the gay ranks of scarlet soldiers, and there files of green elms; here wave the winged leaves of the acacia, there bows the no less pliable head of the courtier; here dances the jet-d'eau in air, there drops to the earth the well-taught curt-seying belle; here monsters spout out water to cool the air, while flattery as abundantly sends forth her streams to refresh the vain. In one spot we see the proud officer flaunting round the brazen image of Venus, whilst the opposite angle shows the sentimental dame reclining on the pedestal of Mars, or Jupiter. Agricola, a German author, says this scene gave him a foretaste of Paradise."

ORACLE.

DANDELION. 117 - LEONTODON TARAXACUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMPOSITE.
ART. CLASS, — SYNGENESIA; ORDER, — SUPERFLUA.

A weed, common in meadows and pastures, bearing a yellow flower throughout the summer. The outer scales of the involucre are bent back; the leaves are runcinate, glabrous, toothed.

LINNÆUS has given the dandelion a deserved place in

the horologe of Flora. It is one of the plants that may
be thost certainly depended upon as to the hour of opening and closing its flowers. The flower, if we well
examine it, we shall discover to be fully as handsome
as the fine garde as rare, to be | This plant blossoms
early in the spri through the summer.

Thine full
Of blossoms
Thine the da
Gilt with det-

rfume :

CLAKE.

The dandellon flower is used for Love's oracle. If you are separated from the object of your affection, gently detach one of these transparent spheres, each little feather that composes it is charged with a tender thought. Turn towards the spot inhabited by your beloved: blow softly, and every little winged traveller, like a faithful messenger, shall bear your secret homage to her feet. If desirous of knowing whether the object so dear thinks of you now you are absent, blow again, and if there remain one tuft, it is a sign you are not forgotten. But the second charm should be done with care; blow very gently; for at any age, even at that

age which is most congenial to love, it is not well for our peace that we should too rudely disperse the pleasing illusions which embellish life.

Miss Landon wrote some very beautiful lines on seeing an illustration of the garden scene in Goethe's Faust, where Margaret plucks a starlike flower to divine the real sentiments of her lover. They are called "The Decision of the Flower."

And with scarlet poppies around like a bower,
The maiden found her mystic flower;
"Now, gentle flower, I pray thee tell
If my lover loves me, and loves me well;
So may the fall of the morning dew
Keep the sun from fading thy tender blue.

Now I number the leaves for my lot—

He loves not—he loves me—he loves me not—

He loves me,—yes, thou last leaf, yes—

I'll pluck thee not, for that last sweet guess!

He loves me!" "Yes," a dear voice sighed,

And her lover stands by Margaret's side.

PATIENCE.

REDSHANKS; OR PATIENCE DOCK. 118 - POLYGONUM BISTORTA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — POLYGONE E. ART. CLASS, — OCTANDRIA; ORDER, — TRIGYNIA.

A medicinal perennial, bearing a pink flower from May to September, common in moist meadows. The stem is simple with one spike; the leaves are ovate, waved, the radical ones tapering into a footstalk.

This has been made the emblem of patience because of its name. It is often substituted in Lancashire for greens; and in the north of England, where it is known by the name of Easter giant, its young shoots were formerly eaten in herb puddings.

PEACE.

OLIVE BRANCHES, - OLEA EUROPÆA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — OLEINÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A fruit tree whose leaves are lanceolate, pointed, entire, hoary, beneath; the branches are angular, without spines.

To thee the heavens, in thy nativity,
Adjudged an olive branch, and laurel crown,
As likely to be blest in peace and war.

SHAKSPERE,

This tree has been celebrated in all ages as the boun-

teous gift of Heaven, and as the emblem of peace and plenty. Peace—wisdom—concord—clemency—joy—and the graces, have ever been crowned with olive.

The dove sent out of the ark by Noah, to ascertain if the waters were assuaged, returned, bearing a branch of olive, a grateful symbol of that rest which Heaven was about to restore to the earth.

PERFECT EXCELLENCE.

STRAWBERRY. 119 - FRAGARIA VESCA.

NAT. CLASS, -- DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, -- ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, -- ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, -- POLYGYNIA.

An evergreen herbaceous plant, perennial, bearing an agreeable fruit. The calyx of the fruit is reflexed; the hairs of the peduncles are widely spreading; those of the pedicels close pressed, silky.

An illustrious French writer conceived the design of compiling a general history of nature, in imitation of the ancients, and of some moderns. A strawberry plant, which chanced to grow by his window, dissuaded him from this design. On minutely observing it, he discovered so much to learn and to admire, that he felt convinced that the study of a single plant, with its habits, would suffice to employ the lives of many learned

men. He therefore abandoned his design and the ambitious title he had selected, and gave to his work the simple title, "Studies from Nature." In this book, which is worthy of Pliny or of Plato, we find the best history of the strawberry. This humble plant delights to grow in our woods, and to cover their borders with delicious fruit, which is the property of any one who chooses to gather it. It is a charming gift, that nature has withdrawn from the operation of those laws which render property exclusive:—this she is pleased to bestow on all her children.

The flowers of the strawberry form pretty bouquets; but what barbarous hands would wish to gather them, and so destroy the promised fruit? Let us hear Wordsworth's plea for the Strawberry Blossom.

That is a work of waste and ruin —
Do as Charles and I are doing!
Strawberry blossoms, one and all,
We must spare them, — here are many —
Look at it, — the flower is small,
Small and low, though fair as any;
Do not touch it! — summers two
I am older, Anne, than you.

Pull the primrose, sister Anne, Pull as many as you can. Here are daisies, take your fill; Pansies, and the cuckoo-flower; Of the lofty daffodil

Make your bed and make your bower;

Fill your lap and fill your bosom;

Only spare the strawberry blossom.

Primroses, the spring may love them, — Summer knows but little of them-Violets, a barren kind,
Withered on the ground must lie;
Daisies leave no fruit behind,
When the pretty flowerets die;
Pluck them, and another year
As many will be growing here.

God has given a kindlier power
To the favoured strawberry flower,
When the months of spring are fled,
Hither let us bend our walk;
Lurking berries, ripe and red,
Then will hang on every stalk,
Each within its leafy bower;
And for that promise spare the flower.

It is, however, most delightful to find the fruit of the strawberry, at all seasons of the year, amid the glaciers of the lofty Alps. When the sun-burnt traveller, oppressed with fatigue upon those rocks, which are as old as the world,—in the midst of those forests, half destroyed by avalanches,—vainly seeks a hut to rest his weary limbs, or a fountain to refresh himself—unexpectedly he sees, emerging from the midst of the

rocks, troops of young girls, advancing toward him with baskets of perfumed strawberries; they appear on all the heights above, and in every dell below. It seems as though each rock and each tree were kept by one of these nymphs, as placed by Tasso at the gate of the enchanted gardens of Armida. As seducing, though less dangerous, the young Swiss peasants, in offering their charming baskets to the traveller, instead of retarding his progress, give him strength to pursue his journey. The strawberry has the property of not undergoing the acetous fermentation in the stomach. The learned Linnæus was cured of frequent attacks of gout by the use of strawberries. This fruit, it is said, has often restored to health patients given over by every physician. They will compose a thousand delicious sherbets, they are the delight of our tables and the luxury of our rural feasts. Every where these charming berries, which dispute in freshness and in perfume the buds of the most beautiful flowers, please the sight. the taste, and the smell. Yet there are some unfortunate enough to hate strawberries, and to swoon at the sight of a rose. Ought it to astonish us, since we see certain persons grow pale at the relation of a good action, as if the inspiration of virtue were a

reproach to them! Happily, these sad exceptions take nothing from the charm of virtue,—from the beauty of the rose,—nor from the perfect excellence of the most charming of fruits.

PERFIDY.

ALMOND LAUREL. 120 - PRUNUS LAURO-CERASUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental evergreen shrub, bearing a white flower in April and May. The flowers are racemose; the leaves evergreen, with two glands at the back.

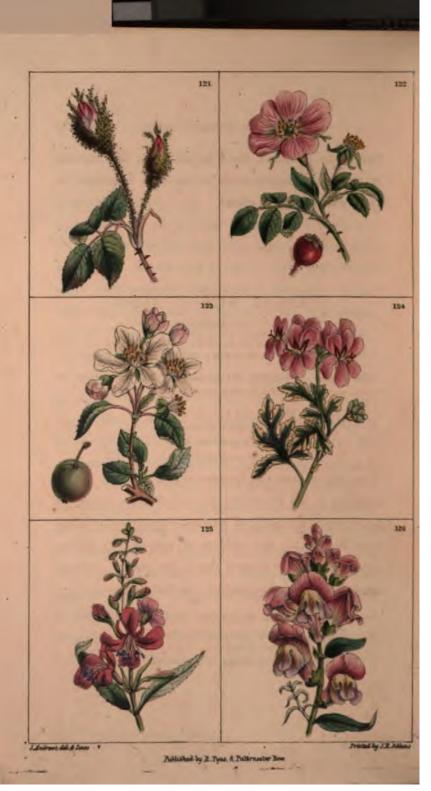
In the environs of Trebizond, on the borders of the Black Sea, we find the treacherous laurel growing naturally. It conceals under its sweet and brilliant verdure the most deadly poison we are acquainted with. In winter it adorns our groves; and is loaded in the spring with numerous pyramids of white flowers, which are succeeded by a black fruit, resembling small cherries; its flowers, fruit, and leaves, have the taste and smell of the almond. It is related that a tender mother, on the birth-day of one of her children, wishing to pre-

pare something nice for her family, threw some pounds of sugar and a handful of almond-laurel leaves into a cauldron of boiling milk. At the prospect of the ap. proaching feast, an innocent joy sparkled in every eye. O surprise! Scarcely had they tasted the fatal dish, when every countenance changed, their hair became erect, their breathing quickened, a thousand confused noises issued from their chests, a horrible fury possessed, agitated, and disordered their senses. The desolate mother wished to call for succour; but, seized with the same disease, she partook of the insensible delirium, for which she could offer no remedy. Calm sleep at length relieved them from this sad inebriation. But what were the feelings of the poor mother, when informed on the morrow, that she had given to her children a poison as fatal as that of the viper! This poison, concentrated in the distilled water, or the essential oil of the almondlaurel, is so violent, that it is sufficient, when it comes in contact with the slightest wound, to kill the most robust man. The sale of this deadly poison is strictly forbidden in Italy; yet, notwithstanding, some greedy distillers have sold it under the name of extract of bitter almonds. We should therefore caution all persons against its use. It was formerly much used to give a .

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flavour to puddings, custards, &c.; but this practice is much less frequent since it has been ascertained to be so poisonous in its effects.

PLEASURE WITHOUT ALLOY.

MOSS-ROSE. 121 - ROSA CENTIFOLIA, MUSCOSA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

The calyxes and peduncles of this variety of the Provins Rose are mossy, on which account it has been named the Moss Rose.

The rose that hails the morning,
Arrayed in all its sweets,
Its mossy couch adorning,
The sun enamoured meets.

The elegant moss-rose is commonly supposed to be the offspring of the Provence rose, though some consider it to belong to the family of hundred-leaved roses. It has ever been made the emblem of perfect joy; Milton mentions it as "without thorn, the rose;" and an anonymous writer has sung of it in that character.

Oh! I love the sweet-blooming, the pretty moss-rose,

'Tis the type of true pleasure, and perfected joy;
Oh! I envy each insect that dares to repose

'Midst its leaves, or among its soft beauties to toy.

I love the sweet lily, so pure and so pale,
With a bosom as fair as the new-fallen snows;
Her luxuriant odours she spreads through the vale,
Yet e'en she must yield to my pretty moss-rose.

Oh! I love the gay heart's-ease, and violet blue,

The sun-flower and blue-bell, each floweret that blows,

The fir-tree, the pine-tree, acacia, and yew,

Yet e'en these must yield to my pretty moss-rose.

Yes, I love my moss-rose, for it ne'er had a thorn,
'Tis the type of life's pleasures, unmix'd with its woes!
'Tis more gay, and more bright, than the opening morn—
Yes, all things must yield to my pretty moss-rose.

PLATONIC LOVE.

ACACIA. - ROBINIA PSEUDACACIA.

NAT. CLASS, -- DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, -- LEGUMINOS E. ART. CLASS, -- DIADELPHIA; ORDER, -- DECANDRIA.

A timber tree, racemes, with one-flowered pedicels; the leaves are pinnated, with an odd one; the stipules are spiny; the pods smooth.

The savages of America have consecrated the acacia to the genius of chaste love; their bows are made from the incorruptible wood of this tree, their arrows are armed with one of its thorns. These fierce children of the desert, whom nothing can subdue, conceive a sentiment full of delicacy; perhaps what they are unable to express by words, but they understand the sentiment by the expression of a branch of blooming acacia. The young savage, like the city coquette, understands this seductive language, and receives, blushing, the homage of him who has won her heart by respect and by love.

It is not more than a century since the forests of Canada yielded us this beautiful tree. The botanist Robin, who first brought it us, gave it his name. The acacia, when spreading its light shade in our groves, with its scented flowers, and sweet and fresh verdure, seems to prolong the spring. The nightingale loves to confide its nest to this new inhabitant of our climate; the lovely bird, assured by the long and strong thorns which protect its family, sometimes descends upon the lowest branches of the tree, as if to make its ravishing notes the better heard.

The acacia has been made the emblem of domestic beauty by an anonymous writer, who thus speaks of it:—
"Tints of the white, the golden, and the red rose, are beautifully intermingled in the rich blossoms of the acacia. It is found in the most retired places, and it blooms the fairest in the closeness of its own foliage. It loves the mossy rock and the solitary grove, and pines away in the gay garden and crowded parterre. Nourmahal sings,

Our rocks are rough, but, smiling there,
The acacia waves her yellow hair,
Lonely and sweet, nor loved the less
For flowering in a wilderness—
Then come—thy Arab maid will be
The loved and lone acacia tree.

There could be no fitter emblem of a beautiful woman flourishing in the retirement of her home, secluded from the vanities of 'crowded life,' and adorning with her bloom the abode of domestic affection."

PLEASANTRY.

BALM GENTLE. - MELISSA OFFICINALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LABIATÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, — GYMNOSPERMIA.

A common medicinal perennial. The whorls are halved subsessile; the bractes oblong, stalked; the leaves are ovate, acute, serrated.

The scientific name of this plant is Melissa, which is synonymous with the Greek word for bee, being derived from μέλι, honey, which is sought for in these flowers with avidity. "The recent plant has the agreeable odour of lemons." "It was formerly prized as a corroborant in hypochondriacal and nervous affections." It

is on account of the soothing qualities of the waters distilled from this plant that it has been made the emblem of pleasantry.

POETRY.

EGLANTINE, OR SWEET-BRIAR. 122 - ROSA RUBIGINOSA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - ROSACEE. ART. CLASS, - ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, - POLYGYNIA.

This is the true sweet-briar. The prickles on the shrub are numerous; the larger uncinate, the smaller subulate. The leaflets are doubly serrated, hairy, glandulose beneath, mostly rounded at the base; the calyx, segments, and pinnæ are elongated, persistent; the primordial fruit pear shaped.

> O'er-canopied with luscious woodbine, With sweet musk-roses, and with eglantine.

SHAKSPERE.

THE eglantine, or wild-briar-rose, more commonly called sweet-briar, has ever been considered the poet's flower. It is not loved for its fair delicate blossoms only; but its fragrant leaves, which perfume the breeze of dewy morn, and the soft breath of eve, entitle it to its frequent association with the woodbine or honeysuckle.

> Its sides I'll plant with dew-sweet eglantine, And honeysuckles full of clear bee-wine. no colle the said by and to Keats, do to the med

THE SENTIMENT OF FLOWERS.

Yonder is a girl who lingers Where wild honeysuckle grows, Mingled with the briar-rose.

H. SMITH.

Burns says, "I Law rite flowers in spring, among which are silver, the harebell, the wild-briar-rose and the hoary-haw-thorn."

V e briar, Ui is near.

The fragrance exh sweet-briar, especially after a gentle shower, is so agreeable and refreshing, that we do not think it can be too thickly planted amidst our plantations and thickets. Dryden, from Chaucer, thus celebrates its delightful fragrance:—

A sweeter spot on earth was never found:

I looked, and looked, and still with new delight;
Such joy my soul, such pleasures filled my sight;
And the fresh eglantine exhaled a breath,
Whose odours were of power to raise from death.

PREFERENCE.

APPLE BLOSSOM.123 - PYRUS MALUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEB. ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

The blossom figured is that of the wild apple tree, whose leaves are ovate, acute, serrated; the flowers are in a sessile umbel; the styles combined below; the fruit, globose.

What virgin's cheek
Can match this apple-bloom?
ELLIOTT.

What is more enchanting to the lover of nature than the apple-tree, when clad with its beautiful bloom in the early Spring? and the more, that they hold forth the promise of an abundance of delicious fruit. The apple-bloom is indeed a charming flower, and by some is preferred before the rose.

PREFERENCE.

ROSE-SCENTED GERANIUM. 124 - PELARGONIUM CAPITATUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — GERANIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONADELPHIA; ORDER, — HEPTANDRIA.

An ornamental evergreen under shrub, bearing a purple rose-scented flower from April to August. The leaves are cordate, lobed, wavy, softly villous, toothed; the stipules broad cordate; the stems diffuse.

Or the geranium there are many species; some drooping, others brilliant, some perfumed, and others again inodorous. That which emits a rose-like odour is distinguished by the softness of its leaves, its sweet odour, and the beauty of its purple flowers.

PRESAGE.

SMALL CAPE MARYGOLD. - CALENDULA PLUVIALIS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - COMPOSITÆ. ART. CLASS, - SYNGENESIA; ORDER, - NECESSARIA.

An ornamental annual. The leaves are narrow, lanceolate, sinuate, toothletted; the stem is leafy; the peduncles are filiform.

THE French have named this flower souci pluviatile, and in England it is distinguished by the name of pluvialis, because of its flowers closing on the approach of rain. It constantly opens at seven o'clock in the

morning, and remains so until four P. M., if the weather be dry. If it does not open, or if it close before the usual hour, we may be sure that there will be rain ere nightfall.

PRETENSION.

WILLOW HERB. 125 - EPILOBIUM ANGUSTIFOLIUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ONOGRALE.
ART. CLASS, — OCTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental plant, deciduous in its habit, and perennial in its duration; common in meadows. The leaves are scattered, linear-lanceolate, veined, glabrous; the flowers are irregular, subspicate; stamens declined. It bears a purple flower in July and August.

This beautiful plant which flourishes by the water's side, seems to take pleasure in admiring itself in the crystal stream. For this reason it is compared to a vain woman, proud of her own charms. Mr. Loudon says that it is a thriving plant, and will grow anywhere, under the drip of trees, and in smoky cities, parks, &c., and is very showy when in flower.

PRESUMPTION.

SNAP DRAGON. 126 - AUTIERHINUM MAJUS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICE ART. CLASS, -

An evergreen plant, bearing pink, sometim The leaves are lanceolat flowers, spiked; the seg

THE flowers of t vivid a scarlet colour th ER, - SCROPHULARINEE.

al; often found on old walls; i occasionally white flowers. I the branches opposite; the vate, obtuse.

are sometimes of so nnot look upon them

with a fixed eye. We have muroduced them into our gardens on account of their beauty; but frequently, like the presumptuous, it is so importunate in spreading itself that we are obliged to banish it for ever.

PRIVATION.

MYROBALAN. -- PRUNUS CERASIFERA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A deciduous shrub, bearing a white flower in April and May. The peduncles are solitary; the leaves, elliptical, smooth; the fruit, pendulous; the branches nearly unarmed.

THE myrobalan is a species of plum tree, and produces

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a fruit which has the appearance of a very beautiful cherry. This fruit contains a faint juice, so disagreeable, that even birds refuse to eat it.

PROMPTITUDE.

TEN-WEEK STOCK. 127 - MATHIOLA ANNUA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - CRUCIFERE.
ART. CLASS, - TETRADYNAMIA; ORDER, - SILICULOSA.

An ornamental annual, bearing striped flowers from May to November. The stem is herbaceous, erect, branched; the leaves are lanceolate, blunt, hoary; the pods subcylindrical, without glands.

This is a most valuable variety of the stock, for no sooner is the seed sown than it germinates, and after forty days it is seen loaded with flowers. These are very transient in their duration, and if we wish to have them throughout the summer season, we must sow them at three different periods, at intervals of about a month from each other. Nothing has more of freshness or variety than the shades of lilac, rose-colour, and white, which are observed on these flowers; they also diffuse a charming odour.

PROSPERITY.

BEECH, 128 - FAGUS SYLVATICA.

NAT. CLASS, - DIC ART. CLASS, -

A very useful timber dentate, their margins ci_

Black was th

RDER, — AMENTACEÆ.

e ovate, glabrous, obsoletely

beech it stood.

DRYDEN.

THE beech may perhaps arded as the rival of the oak, from the beauty of its proportions and the utility of its wood; it will grow everywhere, though it seems to prefer a chalky soil, and thrives so rapidly that it is proverbially said it may be seen to prosper.

PROHIBITION.

PRIVET. 129 - LIGUSTRUM SYLVATICA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — OLEINÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental shrub, bears a white flower in July; is frequently planted for fences. The leaves are elliptico-lanceolate; the panicles compact. Berries black, globose.

"This native shrub," says Mr. Phillips, "is one of the prettiest ornaments of our hedge-rows, which it continues to embellish for a longer period than most other plants; for although it is deciduous, the leaves seldom fall until thrust off by those of the succeeding spring. And its spike-formed thyrsi of white monopetalous flowers, which in shape resemble those of the lilac in minature," agreeably perfume the hedges during the months of May and June; while its "deep purple shining berries garnish the spray of this shrub during the whole winter, affording food to the bulfinch and thrush, and a

Fit dwelling for the feather'd throng, Who pay their quit-rents with a song.

"Why," said a young mother of a family to the pastor of the village, "why did you not plant a strong palisade of thorns in the place of this hedge of flowering privet which surrounds your garden?" The pastor replied, "When you prohibit your son from joining in dangerous pleasures, the prohibition issues from your lips with a tender smile; your look caresses him; and, if he murmur, your maternal hand offers him a toy to console him; so the pastor's hedge ought not to injure, but while it keeps off those who would intrude, it should offer flowers though it repels them."

PRUDENCE.

SERVICE-TREE. 130 - PYRUS DOMESTICA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDNIA; ORDER, — DI-PENTAGYNIA.

A fruit tree, growing in moist woods. Flowers, which are white, in May. The leaves are pinnated, downy beneath; the leaflets serrated upwards; flowers panicled; fruit obovate, resembling a small pear, and is about an inch long.

October is drawn in a garment of yellow and carnation; in his left hand a basket of services, medlars, and other fruits that ripen late.

PEACHAM.

EVERY tree and every plant has a physiognomy which is proper to itself, and which seems to give it a character. The giddy almond-tree profusely puts forth its flowers in spring, at the risk of having no fruit for the autumn, whilst the service-tree never bears its fruit until it has acquired full strength, and then its harvest is certain. For this reason it is made the emblem of prudence. This beautiful tree retains its dazzling scarlet fruit throughout the winter; when we see it shining a brilliant contrast to the white mantle of snow which covers the earth. Its harvest can only be gathered in winter, and for that season Providence has reserved it for the use of the smaller birds.

PURITY AND MODESTY.

WHITE LILY. 131 -- LILIUM CANDIDUM.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LILIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A bulbous-rooted plant, perennial and highly ornamental, bearing large white flowers in June and July. The leaves are lanceolate, scattered, narrowed at the base. The corolla is campanulate, smooth inside.

Ye loftier lilies, bathed in morning's dew, Of purity and innocence renew Each lovely thought.

BARTON.

This delicate and beautiful flower has for centuries received its tribute of admiration from the lovers of nature. Who has not felt a glow of delight in perusing that gorgeous description of the lily which Christ himself gave to his disciples? "Of all the poetry ever drawn from flowers, none is so beautiful, none is so sublime, none is so imbued with that very spirit in which they were made, as that of our Lord: 'And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you, that even Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day

is, and to-morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith!' The sentiment built upon this entire dependence on the goodness of the Creator is one of the lights of our existence, and could only have been uttered by Christ; but we have here also the expression of the very spirit of beauty in which flowers were created—a spirit so boundless and overflowing, that it delights to enliven and adorn with these riant creatures of sunshine the solitary places of the earth; to scatter them by myriads over the very desert 'where no man is, on the wilderness where there is no man;' sending rain 'to satisfy the desolate and waste ground, and to cause the bud of the tender herb to spring forth.'"

It is generally admitted that the white lily is a native of Palestine. The Heathen nations consecrated it to Juno, contending by their fable that it sprung from the milk of that goddess; as we read that Jupiter, being desirous of raising Hercules to the rank of a divinity, induced Juno to drink deep of a cup of nectar, which threw the queen of the gods into a profound sleep. Jupiter placed Hercules at her breast, that the divine milk might enter his frame, and thus work his immortality. The infant was not able to swallow so rapidly

as he drew the milk from her celestial breast, and some drops falling on the earth, this flower sprang up from them; hence it has been called Juno's rose.

In the Hebrew language, the name Susannah signifies a lily; and all nations agree in considering it the symbol of purity and modesty. The following beautiful lines, from the pen of Mrs. Henry Tighe, admirably illustrate the lily as the emblem of purity.

How wither'd, perish'd, seems the form Of you obscure unsightly root! Yet from the blight of wintry storm It hides secure the precious fruit.

The careless eye can find no grace, No beauty in the scaly folds, Nor see within the dark embrace What latent loveliness it holds.

Yet in that bulb, those sapless scales,

The lily wraps her silver vest,

Till vernal suns and vernal gales

Shall kiss once more her fragrant breast.

Yes, hide beneath the mouldering heap, The undelighting slighted thing; There, in the cold earth, buried deep, In silence let it wait the spring.

Oh! many a stormy night shall close In gloom upon the barren earth, While still, in undisturb'd repose, Uninjured lies the future birth; And Ignorance, with sceptic eye,

Hope's patient smile shall wondering view;

Or mock her fond credulity,

As her soft tears the spot bedew.

Sweet smile of home delicious tear!

The sun, ed shall come :

The promiseu appear,

And Nature soms bloom.

And thou, O virg

Shalt, from the lowly bed,

Bursting thy

Unveil thy cha

gray f spring!

lowly bed,

silken string,

erfume shed;

Unfold thy robes of purest white,

Unsullied from thy darksome grave,
And thy soft petals' silvery light
In the mild breeze unfetter'd wave.

So Faith shall seek the lowly dust
Where humble Sorrow loves to lie,
And bid her thus her hopes intrust,
And watch with patient, cheerful eve:

And bear the long, cold, wintry night,
And bear her own degraded doom,
And wait till heaven's reviving light,
Eternal spring! shall burst the gloom.

When and by whom this lily was introduced into England we cannot ascertain; we have, however, reason to believe that it was amongst the earliest exotics that graced our gardens, and perhaps it was brought from the Holy Land by some of the Crusaders, as it is noticed by Chaucer in armorial bearings:

Upon his crest he bore a tour, And therein stiked a lily flour.

Also, in the "Siege of Caerlaverock" (1300), we find it used as an emblem in describing the arms of Henry, Lord Tyas:

> Baniere ot Benri li Tieis, Plus blanche De un poli liois D un chiebron bermeil en mi.

"Henry le Tyes had a banner whiter than a smooth lily, with a red chevron in the middle."

The star of Bethlehem, than the appearance of which nothing is more sweet, more pure, or more agreeable, has also been made the emblem of purity. In the month of June it puts forth its long tuft of star-like flowers, white as the drifted snow.

RARITY.

WANDRAKE. 112 - WANDRAGORA OFFICINALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTTLEDONES; ORDER, — SOLANEE.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A feedbacus herbaceous plant, perennial in its duration, and bearin white flower in May. Its leaves are white, large, broad, and smooth, I the leaves of the beech tree.

The ancients attributed great virtues to this plan but as they have not left any accurate description of i we are ignorant what species they gave that name to Our charlatans and mountebanks, profiting by the innorance of the people, frequently made different roo into the form of a little man, which they exhibited to the credulous, and sought to persuade them that their marvellous roots were the true mandrake, which is found only in one quarter of China, and that near inaccessible. They added that these mandrakes uttered the most lamentable cries, closely resembling those of a human being, when their leaves were plucked after the night-dew had descended; and that whosoever ventured to do it, was struck by death.

The phantom forms — oh! touch not them,
That appal the murderer's sight:
Lurk in the fleshy mandrake's stem,
That shriek when torn at night.

Old medical impostors have told us that the proper way to take up the roots of this plant is to pass a cord cautiously round it, and then attach it to the tail of a dog, which then alone bears the judgment due to an action so impious.

We are told by Pliny, that they who took up this root were directed by superstition to turn their backs to the wind; and before they began to dig, they were to make circles round the plant with the point of a sword, and then turning to the west, proceed to take it up.

Many absurd and superstitious ideas have arisen from the supposed virtues of this plant, which probably never existed.

RECONCILIATION.

HAZEL.133 - CORYLUS AVELLANA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - AMENTACE &.
ART. CLASS, - MONŒCIA; ORDER, - POLYANDRIA.

A deciduous fruit-bearing shrub, common in woods. The stipules are oblong, obtuse; the leaves roundish, cordate, pointed; involucre of the fruit campanulate, rather spreading, torn at the margin.

Why sit we not beneath the grateful shade, Which hazels, intermix'd with elms, have made?

THERE was a time when men were not united by any common tie; when the mother would deprive her son of the wild fruit with which he wished to appease his hunger, and though misfortune might unite them for a moment, the sudden sight of an oak laden with acorns, or a beech covered with beech mast, would render them enemies. At that period the earth was filled with horror; there was no law, no religion, no language; man was utterly ignorant of his nature—his reason slept, and he was often seen more cruel than the ferocious beasts whose frightful howling he imitated.

According to ancient mythology, the gods had pity on the human race, Apollo and Mercury exchanged presents, and came down upon the earth. The god of



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harmony received from the son of Maïa a tortoiseshell, of which he had made a lyre, and gave in return a branch of hazel, which had the power of making virtue beloved, and of re-uniting hearts divided by hatred and envy. Thus armed, the two sons of Jupiter presented themselves to men. Apollo first sang that eternal Wisdom which had created the universe; he told how the elements were produced, and how every part of nature was united by the sweet bonds of love; and, finally, he taught men that they should appease the anger of the gods by adoration and praise. At his voice, pale and trembling mothers were seen advancing with their little children in their arms; hunger was suspended, and the thirst for vengeance fled from every heart. Then Mercury touched mankind with the wand Apollo had given to him. He loosened their tongues, and taught them to express their thoughts by words: he afterwards told them that union gave strength, and that nothing could be derived from the earth without combined labour. Filial piety and patriotic love were brought into action, by his eloquence, to unite the human race; and commerce he made the bond of the world. His last thought was the most sublime, for it was consecrated to the gods; and he told mankind

that they might become equal with the gods by deeds of love and beneficence.

Ornamented with two light wings, and serpents entwining themselves around it, the hazel wand, presented to the god of eloquence by the god of harmony, is still, under the name of Mercury's wand, the symbol of peace, commerce, and reconciliation.

RESERVE.

MAPLE. 134 - ACER PSEUDO-PLATANUS.

NAT. CLASS, -- DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, -- ACERINEÆ.
ART. CLASS, -- POLYGAMIA; ORDER, -- MONŒCIA.

A large tree, with spreading branches and ample leaves; flowers greenish; the leaves are five-lobed, unequally serrated, glaucous and smooth beneath; racemes pendulous; fruit smooth.

The maple is made the emblem of reserve, because its flowers are very slow in opening, and they also fall with extreme tardiness. Hanbury observes, that when the flowers, which are of a fine yellow colour, are out in the spring, the tree has great beauty; and in the autumn, the leaves change to a golden yellow hue, which produces a good effect when the various tints of the fading vegetable world are so universally displayed.

RESISTANCE.

TREMELLA. - TREMELLA ALBIDA.

THE tremella is a gelatinous plant, which has occupied much of the naturalist's attention, but as yet it has baffled his research. It was very celebrated among the alchemists of old, who used it in the preparation of the philosopher's stone and universal panacea, considering it as a fallen star. Other sages have fancied it to be the returned food of hawks which had devoured frogs, while others supposed it to be an animal. It seems, however, to render research fruitless, by being continually found in various analogous forms, which again resume their previous appearance. They are generally found in the alleys of gardens, and in moist pastures; and sometimes, after a wet and rainy night, the earth in the thickets of the Tuilleries has been observed to be entirely covered. A few hours after sunrise, they entirely disappear. In short, we know nothing certain about this singular plant; it is a secret of nature which resists our most persevering inquiries.

RETURN OF HAPPINESS.

LILY OF THE VALLEY. 185 - CONVALLARIA MAJALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — SMILOACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A much admired perennial, bearing delicate white flowers in May and June, fragrant, segments recurved. The scape is semi-cylindrical; the leaves two, ovato-lanceolate, radical; flowers racemed, globoso-campanulate, drooping.

Sweet flower o' the valley, wi' blossoms of snow,

And green leaves that turn the cauld blast frae their stems;

Bright emblem o' innocence, thy beauties I lo'e,

Aboon the king's coronet circled wi' gems!

There's no tinsel about thee, to make thee mair bright, Sweet lily! thy loveliness a' is thine ain, And thy bonny bells, danglin', sae pure and sae light, Proclaim thee the fairest o' Flora's bright train.

This lowly plant loves the shelter of the hollow valleys, the shade of oaks, or the cool banks of streams.

The lily, screen'd from every ruder gale,

Courts not the cultured spot where roses spring.

In the earliest days of May its snowy flowers expand themselves, and scatter their perfume in the air. Barton says,

The lily, whose sweet beauties seem As if they must be sought.

And Thomson gives us a glimpse of a "fair and bonnie spot," where fairies might hold their revels:—

> Seek the bank where flowering elders crowd, Where, scatter'd wide, the lily of the vale Its balmy essence breathes, where cowslips hang The dewy head, where purple violets lurk, With all the lovely children of the shade.

Wordsworth, who delights to wander 'mid the green and flowery fields, to explore the valley, or scale the mountain's loftiest height, has not forgotten this sweet flower:—

That shy plant,—the lily of the vale,

That loves the ground, and from the sun withholds

Her pensive beauty, from the breeze her sweets.

And at this season the nightingale quits our hedges and bushes, and seeks his consort in the depths of the forests, where the echo in the solitude answers to his voice. Guided by the perfume of the lily of the valley, this charming bird soon chooses his retreat. There it celebrates, in its melodious song, the delights of solitude and of love, and the flower which every successive year announces to him the return of happiness.

The "Naid-like lily of the vale, whose tremulous bells are seen through their pavilions of tender green,"

No flower amic Than the sweet The queen of flo

But, we must not forget it ever loves retirement: -

In the lone copse of Wild cluster'd knots And droops the lily

REVERIE

FLOWERING FERN. - OSMUI

NAT. CLASS, ACOTYLEDONES; OR ART. CLASS, - CRYPTOGAMIA; 0

The noblest and most striking of the pinnules oblong, nearly entire, the lower the inferior ones opposite; fertile paniele extremity of the frond. THERE .

Mathiole attributes to this, which grows principally in shady and humid places, the virtue of inspiring prophetic dreams.

REWARD OF VIRTUE.

A GARLAND OF ROSES.

Let us crown ourselves with roses ere they be withered.

SOLOMON'S SONG.

AT Salency, in France, there is a festival of roses, instituted by St. Medard, bishop of Noyon. There is an annual assemblage of young people of both sexes, who elect for their queen of the day that maiden who is most worthy (and her worth must consist in the practice of social and domestic virtues); then they crown her amidst loud rejoicings, and with solemn ceremony. The simple splendour of those flowers, which are the crown of innocence, is at once its reward, encouragement, and emblem. It is a gentle ambition, whose utmost aim is a garland of roses. Chaucer says—

And everich had a chapelet on her hed Makid of goodly floures white and red.

Roses seem to have been used in garlands amongst the ancient Egyptians; for we read that when Ptolemy and his sister Cleopatra entertained Cæsar, and the noble Romans who attended him, at the royal palace in Alexandria, they were twined into wreaths with nard, an odoriferous plant, whence spikenard.

> With wreaths of nard the guests their temples bind, And blooming roses of immortal kind.

ROWE'S LUCAN.

RICHES.

CORN .- TRITICUM ÆSTIVUM.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — GRAMINEE.
ART. CLASS, — TRIANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

An agricultural annual. Spikes parallel, compressed, bearded; glumes gibbous bearded, truncated at base, contracted, with a nerve running thinner upward.

WE are assured by botanists that corn is nowhere found in its primitive state. It seems to have been confided by Providence to the care of man, with the use of fire, to secure to him the sceptre of the earth. With corn and with fire, all other gifts may be dispensed with or acquired. With corn alone we could nourish every domestic animal which affords flesh for our sustenance, shares our labours, or which may be in various ways serviceable to us. The pig, the hen, the duck, the pigeon, the ass,

the sheep, the goat, the horse, the cow, the cat, and the dog; each renders us something in return for our care. We receive from each, according to nature, either eggs or milk, bacon or wool, various meats, or services. Corn is the first bond of society, because its culture and preparation for our use require great labour and reciprocal services. From its inestimable value, the ancients called the good Ceres the legislatrix.

There are occasions when food is much more highly esteemed than the possession of riches. An Arab, wandering in the desert, had not tasted food for the space of two days, and began to be apprehensive of famine. In passing near a well, where the caravans stopped, he perceived a little leathern sack on the sand. He took it up, saying, "God be praised, it is, I think, a little flour." He hastened to open the sack, but at the sight of its contents, he cried, "How unfortunate I am! it is only some gold powder!"

We shall extract from that delightful work, Howitt's "Book of the Seasons," a slight sketch of the harvest in England. "The harvest is a time for universal gladness of the heart. Nature has completed her most important operations. She has ripened her best fruits, and a thousand hands are ready to reap them with joy.

It is a gladdening sight to stand upon some emine and behold the yellow hues of harvest amid the relief of hedges and trees, to see the shocks stand thickly in a land of peace; the partly reaped fields the clear cloudless sky shedding over all its lus There is a solemn splendour, a mellowness and matu of beauty, thrown over the landscape. The wheat-cr shine on the hills and slopes, as Wordsworth expres it, 'like golden shields cast down from the sun.' the lovers of solitary rambles, for all who desire to t the pleasures of a thankful heart, and to participate the happiness of the simple and the lowly, now is time to stroll abroad. They will find beauty and enj ment spread abundantly before them. They will i the mowers sweeping down the crops of pale barl every spiked ear of which, so lately looking up brav at the sun, is now bent downward in a modest graceful curve, as if abashed at his ardent and incess gaze. They will find them cutting down the rustl oats, each followed by an attendant rustic who gath the swath into sheaves from the tender green of young clover, which, commonly sown with oats to c stitute the future crop, is now showing itself luxurian But it is in the wheat field that all the jollity, and gl

ness, and picturesqueness of harvest are concentrated. Wheat is more particularly the food of man. Barley affords him a wholesome but much abused potation; the oat is welcome to the homely board of the hardy mountaineers, but wheat is especially and everywhere the 'staff of life.' To reap and gather it in, every creature of the hamlet is assembled. The farmer is in the field, like a rural king amid his people:

Around him ply the reaper band
With lightsome heart and eager hand,
And mirth and music cheer the toil,
While sheaves that stud the russet soil,
And sickles gleaming in the sun,
Tell jocund autumn is begun.

"The labourer, old or young, is there to collect what he has sown with toil, and watched in its growth with pride; the dame has left her wheel and her shady cottage, and, with sleeve-defended arms, scorns to do less than the best of them; the blooming damsel is there adding her sunny beauty to that of universal nature; the boy cuts down the stalks which overtop his head; children glean amongst the shocks; and even the unwalkable infant sits propped with sheaves, and plays with the stubble, and

With all its twined flowers.

Such groups are often seen in the wheat field as deserve the immortality of the pencil. There is something too about wheat-harvest which carries back the mind and feasts it with the pleasures of antiquity. The sickle is almost the only implement which has descended from the olden times in its pristine simplicity—to the present hour, neither altering its form, nor becoming obsolete, amid all the fashions and improvements of the world. It is the same now as it was in those scenes of rural beauty which the Scripture history, without any laboured description, often by a single stroke, presents so livingly to the imagination, as it was when tender thoughts passed

Through the sad heart of Ruth, when sick for home, She stood in tears amid the alien corn;

when the minstrel-king wandered through the solitudes of Paran, or fields reposing at the feet of Carmel; or, 'as it fell on a day, that the child of the good Shunamite went out to his father to the reapers. And he said unto his father, My head, my head! And he said to a lad, Carry him to his mother. And when he had taken him, and brought him to his mother, he sate on her knees till noon, and then died.' 2nd Kings iv. 18—20.

Let no one say it is not a season of happiness to the toiling peasantry; I know that it is. In the days of boyhood I have partaken their harvest labours, and listened to the overflowings of their hearts as they sate amid the sheaves beneath the fine blue sky, or among the rich herbage of some green headland beneath the shade of a tree, while the cool keg plentifully replenished the horn; and sweet, after exertion, were the contents of the harvest field basket. I know that the poor harvesters are amongst the most thankful contemplators of the bounty of Providence, though so little of it falls to their share. To them harvest comes as an annual festivity. To their healthful frames, the heat of the open fields, which would oppress the languid and relaxed, is but an exhilarating glow. The inspiration of the clear blue sky above, and of scenes of plenty around them; and the very circumstance of their being drawn away from their several dwellings at this bright season, open their hearts, and give a life to their memories; and many an anecdote and history from 'the simple annals of the poor' are there related, which need only to pass through the mind of a Wordsworth or a Crabbe to become immortal in their mirth or woe."

SADNESS.

As winter advarbeing despoiled of is a pleasing per and seek to deriv mery has sung the fi lose their verdure, after The "fall of the leaf" ove the study of nature, from. James Montgo-, and the lines contain

sentiments so just that we introduce them here for the delight of our readers.

Were I a trembling leaf
On yonder stately tree,
After a season, gay and brief,
Condemn'd to fade and flee;
I should be loath to fall
Beside the common way,
Weltering in mire, and spurn'd by all
Till trodden down to clay.

Nor would I choose to die
All on a bed of grass;
Where thousands of my kindred lie
And idly rot in mass.
Nor would I like to spread
My thin and wither'd face,
In hortus siecus, pale and dead,
A mummy of my race.

No! on the wings of air
Might I be left to fly,
I know not and I heed not where;
A waif of earth and sky!
Or flung upon the stream,
Curl'd like a fairy boat;
As through the changes of a dream,
To the world's end to float.

Who that hath ever been,

Could bear to be no more?

Yet who would tread again the scene

He trod through life before?

On, with intense desire,

Man's spirit will move on:

It seems to die, yet, like Heaven's fire,

It is not quench'd but gone.

The sun now sheds on the foliage a pale yellow hue, and the poplar is tinged with discoloured gold, whilst the acacia folds up its bright foliage, which the sun's rays will expand no more. The birch-tree waves its long branches, already stripped of ornament; and the fir, which preserves its green pyramids, balances them proudly in the air. The oak is immoveable—it resists the efforts of the wind to strip its stately head; and the king of the forest refuses to shed its leaves until the ensuing spring. We are told that all these trees are moved by different passions; one bows profoundly as if it wished to render homage to him whom the

tempest cannot move; another seems desirous of embracing its companion, the support of its weakness; and while they mingle their branches together, a third seems universally agitated, as though it were surrounded by enemies. Often do we see fallen on the earth, having already lost their bright green verdure, clouds of dead leaves that cover the ground with a restless garment. We love to contemplate the storm that chases, agitates, disperses, and torments these sad remains of a spring which can never return.

SECRET LOVE.

MOTHERWORT. - LEONURUS CARDIACA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - LABIATE. ART. CLASS, - DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, - GYMNOSPERMIA.

An herbaceous plant, deciduous, perennial, ornamental. Common in hedges and waste places. Stem three feet high, branched. Flowers, in crowded whorls, white, with a reddish tinge; upper lip of corolla, shaggy. Calyx pungent, with spreading teeth.

THE clandestina grows at the foot of large trees, in moist and umbrageous places. Its pretty purple flowers are nearly always hidden under moss or dry leaves.

SEPARATION.

TRUMPET FLOWER.137 - BIGNONIA RADICANS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — BIGNONIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIDYNAMIA; ORDER, — ANGIOSPERMA.

A very ornamental climber, known in France by the name of "Jasmin de Virginie," and often imported into this country as the "American Jasmine." This species, which is the only one that will live in this country in the open air, bears an orange-coloured flower in July and August. Its leaves are pinnate; the leaflets ovate, acuminate, toothed; the corymb terminal. The tube of the corolla is thrice as long as the calyx.

How many ravishing harmonies spring up on every side, from the association of plants with the animal The butterfly embellishes the rose; the creation! nightingale sings in our groves; and the industrious bee enlivens the flower which yields its sweet treasures. Throughout nature, the insect is associated with the flower; the bird with the tree; and the quadruped with plants. Man alone is able to enjoy all these things; and he alone can break the chain of concord and of love, by which the whole universe is bound together. His greedy hand bears off an animal from its native clime, without thinking of its habits and its wants; and yet more frequently neglects the plant, which is made to forget in its new slavery the attractions of its own country. Does he import a plant? He neglects

the insect which animates it, the bird which adorns it, and the quadruped which is nourished by its leaves and reposes under its shade. Behold the Virginian jessamine, with its beautiful verdure and flowers; it always remains a stranger amongst us. We always prefer our lovely honeysuckle before it; from the woodbine the bee gathers honey, the goat browses its verdure, and its fruit is the food of legions of the feathered tribe. Could we see the humming bird of Florida hopping about its slender branches (for in the vast forests of the new world it prefers its beautiful foliage to that of every other shrub), we should doubtless regard with greater admiration and pleasure the rich Virginian jessamine. The humming bird makes its nest in one of the leaves, which it rolls into the shape of a horn; it finds its sustenance in the nectareous vessels of its red flowers, which are similar to those of the fox-glove: and its little body, when resting on the jasmine flower, appears like an emerald set in coral. It is sometimes so tame or fearless that it may be taken with the hand. This little being is the soul and life of the plant that cherishes it. Separated from its aërial guest, this beautiful twining plant becomes as a desolate widow who has lost all her charms.

SICKNESS.

FIELD ANEMONE. 138 - ANEMONE NEMOROSA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RANUNCULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

A tuberous-rooted perennial, ornamental, bearing a white flower from March to May, found in moist woods and pastures; its leaves are ternate; leaflets, lanceolate, lobed, and cut; involucre similar to them, petiolate; the stem is single flowered; the calyx-leaves are six-elliptical; pericarps, awnless.

In some countries it is believed that the flower of the field anemone possesses qualities so pernicious as to infect the air; and that those who inspire its exhalations are subject to the most frightful maladies. In olden times the magicians, attributing extraordinary medical properties to this plant, ordered every person to gather the first anemone he saw in the year, repeating at the time, "I gather thee for a remedy againt disease." It was then carefully preserved, and if the gatherer became indisposed it was tied round his neck or arm.

SILENCE.

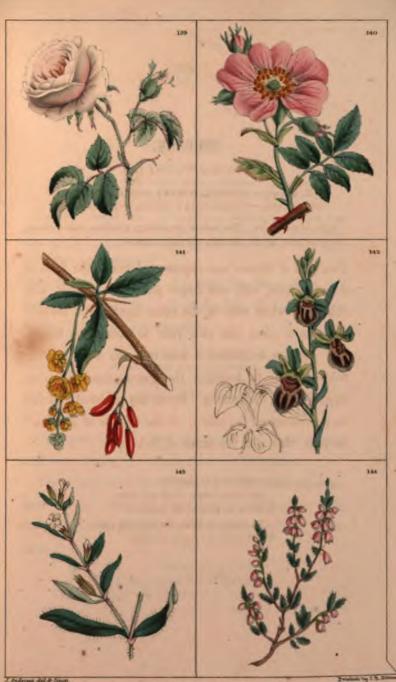
WHITE ROSE, 139 - ROSA ALBA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYANDRIA.

A single white rose. The leaflets are oblong, glaucous, naked above, simply serrate; sepals, reflexed; the fruit unarmed.

The god of silence was represented under the form of a young man, with one finger placed on his lips, and holding a white rose in the other hand. We are told that Love gave him this rose to secure his favour. The ancients sculptured a rose over the doors of their festive halls, to interdict the guests from repeating anything that was spoken. Byron has rendered it sacred to the silence of the tomb. In the "Bride of Abydos," he says, that o'er the tomb of Zuleika

A single rose is shedding
Its lovely lustre, meek and pale:
It looks as planted by despair —
So white, so faint, the slightest gale
Might whirl the leaves on high.





SIMPLICITY.

WILD, OR DOG ROSE.140 - ROSA CANINA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYANDRIA.

Common in hedge rows. The stem and branches are covered with prickles, uniform, hooked; the leaves are naked or slightly hairy; their disk, eglandulose; calyx segments fully pinnate, deciduous; styles not united; shoots, assurgent.

THE wild, or common dog rose, has been made the emblem of simplicity. It forms one of the principal flowers in the rustic's bouquet.

The wild rose scents the summer air,
And woodbines weave in bowers,
To glad the swain sojourning there,
And maidens gathering flowers.

CLARE.

Clemence Isaure, who instituted the floral games, awarded a single rose as the prize for eloquence.

The standards of the houses of York and Lancaster were charged with the bearing of the wild rose. This flower was also stamped on the current coin of those days.

> Thou once wast doomed Where civil discord braved the field, To grace the banner and the shield.

> > FABLE OF THE ROSE.

SINCERITY.

FERN.

"Fern off ashes are u convivial party wine make men tble seat to lovers; its sture of glasses for the orld knows that love and

SHARPNESS.

BARBERRY, 141 - BERBERIS VULGARIS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - BERBERIDEE.
ART. CLASS, - HEXANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

A fruit-bearing shrub, with upright twiggy stems; flowers yellow, $\Lambda_{\rm F}$ ril and May. Stamens highly curious in their formation. Berries oblong, a little curved, red, tipped with the black style; they are agreeably acid, and much used for preserves.

The fruit of the barberry is so very acid that birds will seldom eat them. The tree is armed with thorns, and the flowers are so irritable, that at the slightest touch all the stamina close around the pistil. Thus this tree bears all the characteristics of persons whose temper is sharp and irritable.

SKILL.

SPIDER OPHRYS. 149 - OPHRYS ARANIFERA.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ORCHIDEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — GYNANDRIA; ORDER, — MONANDRIA.

An elegant tuberous rooted perennial, found in chalky soils. Lip tumid, clothed with short dense hairs, three lobed, middle lobe large, emarginate; anther acute.

According to ancient fable, Arachne was very skilful in spinning and weaving, and dared to defy Minerva in the exercise of those arts. The offended goddess changed the imprudent Arachne into a spider, which, according to Guillim, is free of the Weavers' Company. The spider ophrys closely resembles the insect which, under a hideous form, still retains its skill and address.

SLEEP OF THE HEART.

WHITE POPPY.

There poppies white, and violets, Alcippus on the altar sets Of quiet sleep; and weaves a crown To bring the gentle godhead down.

FRACASTORIO.

An insipid oil is expressed from the grains of the white poppy, which calms the senses and provokes sleep. Would not the unhappy lover, who dreads that the object of his love has no reciprocal feeling, thus express himself in the words of H. Smith? —

O gentle sleep!
Scatter thy drowsiest poppies from above;
And in new dreams, not soon to vanish, bless
My senses.

Yea, gladly would be become insensible to the agonies of unrequited love.

The palace of Somnus, who presided over sleep, was represented as a dark cave, into which the sun's rays never penetrated; at the entrance grew poppies and other somniferous herbs; the Dreams watched over his couch, attended by Morpheus, his prime minister, holding a vase in one hand, and grasping poppies in the other.

SNARE.

CATCHFLY.143 - SILENE ANGLICA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CARYOPHYLLER.
ART. CLASS, — DECANDRIA; ORDER, — TRIGYNIA.

An annual weed, bearing a white flower in June; found in sandy fields. The petals are small, hairy, and viscid, crowned, slightly bifid; the calyces have setaceous teeth; ovate in fruit, and sometimes reflexed.

THE catchfly is a simple emblem of the gross snares

which vice spreads for unwary and imprudent youth. Flies, attracted by the evil odour of this plant, become entangled in its leaves, and are not able to disengage themselves.

SOLITUDE.

HEATH.14: -- CALLUNA VULGARIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ERICACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — OCTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A low, much branching, tufted shrub. Leaves are small, opposite; flowers small, reddish, drooping, almost sessile, ovate.

The foliage of this plant is ever-green, of varied and beautiful shapes, and on examination is found as pleasing as its singular blossom. In our floral hieroglyphics it is made emblematical of solitude; and thus, when the rustic lover offers his mistress a bouquet of heath and pansies, she understands that if his solitude were charmed by her society, his heart would be at ease.

Oh! to lie down in wilds apart,
Where man is seldom seen or heard,
In still and ancient forests, where
Mows not his scythe, ploughs not his share,
With the shy deer and cooing bird!

To go in dreatiness of mood,

O'er a lone heath, that spreads around
A solitude like a silent sea,

Where rises not a hut or tree,

The wide-embracing sky its bound!

Oh! ber"
Strete re the bee,
Where the ion strong,
Wheels ro piping song,
And tin er free.

MARY HOWITT.

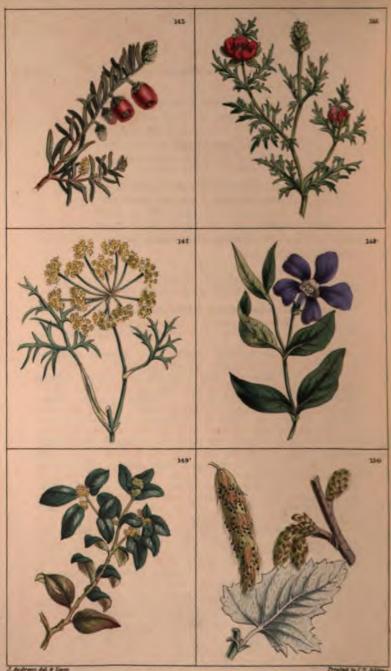
There are now ab ndred different species of heath, of such variety pen can describe them. On some we observe little wax-like flowers, and others present us with pendent

pearls; some are adorned with coraline beads, whilst others seem to resemble the golden trumpet, or tempting berries, or porcelain of bell or bottle shape. Globes of alabaster hang on the slender spray of some, and others, again, remind us of Lilliputian trees, bedecked with Turkish turbans in miniature. "Their colours are not lesss varied than their shape, whilst the foliage is equally beautiful in its apparent imitation of all the mountainous trees, from the Scottish fir to Lebanon's boasted cedar."

A heath's green wild lay present to his view, With shrubs and field flowers decked of varied hue.



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SORROW.

YEW.145 - TAXUS BACCATA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CONIFERÆ.

ART. CLASS, — DIŒCIA; ORDER, — MONADELPHIA.

A highly ornamental evergreen tree. The leaves are thickly set, linear, distichous, flat; flowers, axillary, sessile; the male receptacles are globose.

Beneath that yew-tree's shade,

Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap,
Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,

The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

GRAY.

There is in every plant something which either attracts or repels us. The yew-tree is considered by all nations to be the emblem of sorrow. Plants are said to die under its shade, and if the weary traveller should sleep under its umbrageous branches his head becomes affected, and he soon feels violently ill. It also exhausts the earth that yields it nourishment. Our ancestors, guided by a natural sentiment, thought it a fit resident in the cemetery, and so destined it to overshade the tomb. They used its wood for bows, lances, and cross-bows; and the Greeks also employed it for the same purposes. For a long time it appeared

in our gardens, where it was trained in the most tastic forms; but now its culture is entirely aban In Switzerland the peasants have a great vene for it; they call it "William's bow," and its brace preserved from spoliation. In the gardens of land, which owe everything to art, it is often so the four corners of a perfect square. The G who had true conceptions of the beautiful in n were affected like ourselves by the sorrowful asp this tree, and imagined that the unfortunate S when rejected by young Crocus, was changed i yew.

Nature presents us among plants with corals for infancy, crowns for our youth, and valuable fruit every age. Are we melancholy? The murm willow affords us sympathy. Do we love? The moffers up its flowers. Are we wealthy? The che yields us its luxuriant and pompous shade. And are sorrowful, the yew seems to address us thus: sorrow! it cankers the heart as I exhaust the that affords me nourishment. Sorrow is as dang to man as my shadow is to the traveller!"

SORROWFUL REMEMBRANCES.

PHEASANT'S EYE; OR FLOS ADONIS,146 - ADONIS AUTUMNALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RANUNCULACEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — POLYANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

A pretty annual, bearing crimson flowers from May to October. The leaves are thrice compound, with linear segments; the petals are concave, connivent, scarcely longer than the glabrous calyx; pericarps reticulated, collected into an ovate head; the stem is branched.

> Look, in the garden blooms the flos adonis, And memory keeps of him who rashly died, Thereafter changed by Venus, weeping, to this flower.

> > ANON.

Adonis was killed by a boar when hunting. Venus, who had quitted the pleasures of Cytherus for his sake, shed many tears at his melancholy fate. The fable tells us that these were not lost, but mingling with the blood of Adonis, the earth received them, and forthwith sprang up a light plant covered with purple flowers. Brilliant and transient flowers; alas! too faithful emblems of the pleasures of life! you were consecrated by the same beauty as the symbol of sorrowful remembrances.

By this the boy, that by her side lay killed, Was melted like a vapour from her sight; And in his blood, that on the ground lay spilled,

A purple flower sprang up, chequered with white.

SHAKSPERE.

This plant is very common in our corn fields, more particularly in the west of England.

STRENGTH.

FENNEL.147 - FŒNICULUM VULGARE.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — UMBELLIFER E.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

A culinary perennial, plentiful on chalky cliffs. Its yellow flowers appear in July and August. The leaves are biternate; the leaflets linear-filiform, pinnatifid; the segments awl-shaped. Fennel seeds are esteemed as carminative.

A savoury odour blown, more pleased my sense Than smell of sweetest fennel, or the teats Of ewe, or goat, dropping with milk at ev'n.

MILTON.

THE gladiators mingled this plant with their food, from a supposition that it tended to increase their strength. After the games were over, the conqueror was crowned with a wreath of fennel. The Romans named this plant anethum.

STOICISM.

BOX.148 - BUXUS SEMPERVIRENS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — EUPHORBIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, — TRIANDRIA.

An ornamental evergreen, found on dry chalky hills. The leaves are egg-shaped; the petioles hairy at the edge; the anthers ovato-sagittate.

The tree box loves the shade, and will grow under the drip of trees. It maintains its verdant appearance in winter as well as summer. It requires no care, and endures for centuries. On account of its resistance to the changes of the seasons, and the power of time, it has been made the emblem of stoicism.

SURPRISE.

TRUFFLE. - TUBER CIBARIUM.

NAT. CLASS, — ACOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — TUBERACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — CRYPTOGAMIA; ORDER, — FUNGI.

An esculent tuber, celebrated in the annals of cookery.

This singular substance, so celebrated in the annals of cookery, has always been an object of surprise to the observer. It has neither branches, nor root, nor leaves. It is generated under the earth, where it remains during

its existence. Pigs and dogs are taught to find them: and when gathered, they are brought to table either boiled or stewed.

SUSPICION.

MUSHROOM. - AGARICUS CAMPESTRIS.

NAT. CLASS, — ACOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — APHYLLE.
ART. CLASS, — CRYPTOGAMIA; ORDER, — FUNGI.

The common edible mushroom. The cap is white, fleshy, dry, subsquamose or sericeous; lamellæ free, ventricose, pink, changing to dark fuscous. The stipes are solid, white, with an annular veil.

Many species of mushroom are known to be deadly poison. The Ostiacks, a Siberian tribe, make a preparation from the Agaricus muscarius, which will kill the most robust man in twelve hours. Several mushrooms in our country are almost as dangerous; as there is a liquid hid within them of a nature so acrid, that a single drop put on the tongue will produce a blister. The Russians, during their long fasts, live entirely on mushrooms; and are often thrown into violent convulsions in consequence. We regard them as a dainty dish, but we ought to use them with great caution. Before using

them they should be exposed to the heat of boiling water; this will ascertain their quality, as if they are not of a good kind their perfume will be evaporated.

SWEET REMEMBRANCES.

PERIWINKLE.149 - VINCA MINOR.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — APOCYNEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An evergreen trailer, very ornamental, and will grow under trees or under eaves-dropping. It bears a pretty green flower nearly all the year round. The stems are procumbent; the leaves elliptical, lanceolate, smooth at the edge; the flowers are stalked; teeth of the calyx are lanceolate.

Through primrose tufts, in that sweet bower,
The periwinkle trailed its wreaths;
And 'tis my faith that every flower
Enjoys the air that breathes.

WORDSWORTH.

THERE is an agreeable softness in the delicate blue colour of the periwinkle, and a quietness in the general aspect of the flower, that appears to harmonise with the retired situations where it loves to grow. It prefers the shady banks of the grove, rather than to meet the meridian sun in the society of the gay plants of the parterre.

In France the flower has been made emblematical of the pleasures of memory, from the circumstance of Rousseau's saying, in one of his works, that as he and Madame Warens were proceeding to Charmettes, she was struck by the appearance of some blue flowers in the hedge, and exclaimed, "Here is the periwinkle still in flower." He then tells us, that thirty years afterwards, being at Gressier, with M. Peyron, climbing a hill, he observed some in blossom among the bushes, which bore his memory back at once to the time when he was walking with Madame Warens, and he inadvertently cried, "Ah! there is the periwinkle." Rousseau relates this anecdote as a proof of the vivid recollection he had of every incident which occurred at a particular time of his life, and hence this flower is made to represent "Les doux Souvenirs."

> Oh! Memory, thou fond deceiver, Still importunate and vain, To former joya recurring ever, And turning all the past to pain.

Thou, like the world, the opprest oppressing,
Thy smiles increase the wretch's woe;
And he who wants each other blessing,
In thee must ever find a foe.

GOLDSMITH.

This plant attaches itself strongly to the earth, which it adorns; it encloses itself entirely with its flexible branches, which are covered with flowers that seem to reflect the colour of the sky. Thus our first sentiments are so lively, so pure, so innocent, that they seem to have a celestial origin; they mark a period of momentary happiness, and they ought to be treasured up among our most endearing recollections.

SYMPATHY.

THRIFT. - ARMERIA VULGARIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — PLUMBAGINEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — POLYGYNIA.

A red-flowered perennial, blooming from June to August. The scape is rounded, smooth. The outer leaves of the involucrum are acute; the leaves are linear, flat, obtuse.

> The marygold above, to adorn the arched bar; The double daysie, thrift, the button batcheler.

> > DEAYTON.

THE scientific name of this plant, statice, is derived from the Greek word statikos, which expresses that which has the power to stop, unite, or retain. Next to box, it forms the prettiest border plant we know. The flowers of the thrift are small, numerous, turning towards the sun, and form pretty blue cups. To be seen to advantage they should be viewed through a microscope. The plant is cultivated for its modest beauty, but it grows naturally in marshy places, and especially by the sea-shore, where it binds the sands together by its numerous roots. This quality is the bond which unites man to his fellow man, and, without it, each individual would be a distinct species by himself. Dryden makes it one of the noblest qualities in human nature:—

Kindness by secret sympathy is tied; For noble souls in nature are allied.

Locke observes, "There are such associations made in the minds of most men, that to this might be attributed most of the sympathies observable in them."

THE HEART THAT KNOWS NOT LOVE.

WHITE ROSE-BUD.

Untouch'd, upon its thorny stem,
Hangs the pale rose unfolding.
HURDIS.

BEFORE the breath of love animated the world, all

the roses were white, and every heart was insensible. Herrick says, that

> As Cupid danced among The gods, he down the nectar flung; Which on the white rose being shed, Made it for ever after red.

Another poet makes the rose to say, that it borrowed its purple hue and sweet perfume from Love: —

'Twas from Love, I borrowed, too, My sweet perfume, my purple hue.

The white rose-bud may be an appropriate emblem of the heart of one too young to love, but it is far too delicate for those who are insensible from another cause, and of whom it may be said in the language of Thomson,

> E'en Love itself is bitterness of soul, A pensive anguish pining at the heart; Or, sunk to sordid interest, feels no more That noble wish, that never cloyed desire, Which, selfish joy disdaining, seeks alone To bless the dearer object of its flame.

TIME.

WHITE POPLAR. 150 - POPULUS ALBA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — AMENTACEE.
ART. CLASS, — DICCIA; ORDER, — HEXANDRIA.

An apetalous timber tree. The leaves are roundish, heart shaped, lobed, toothed, glabrous above, downy, and very white beneath; the fertile catkins ovate; stigmas four.

THE white poplar is one of the most valuable of our indigenous trees, and grows to the height of more than ninety feet, towering its superb head upon a straight silvered trunk. The ancients consecrated it to Time, because the leaves are in continual agitation; and being of a blackish green on the upper side, with a thick white cotton on the other, they were supposed to indicate the alternation of day and night.

TIMIDITY.

MARVEL OF PERU. 151 - MIRABILIS JALAPA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — NYCTAGINEM.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — PENTAGYNIA.

A fusiform-rooted plant, bearing handsome red flowers from June to September. The flowers are clustered, stalked; the leaves are smooth.

This plant is called mirabilis, and with some degree





of reason, for it is a most admirable flower; it expands its richly-dyed corollas at night, whence it has been named by the French belle de nuit.

It is universally considered to be the emblem of timidity, from its shunning the brilliant light of day, and only venturing to display its charms in the cool of the evening.

The mimosa, or sensitive plant, has been assigned as the symbol of chastity and prudery, but we think it may be more properly used as the sign of timidity; as it seems to fly from the hand that would touch it. At the least approach, the leaves shrink within themselves. The petiole then droops, and if the plant be low, it touches the earth. Even a cloud passing between it and the rays of the sun, is sufficient to change the situation of its leaves and the general aspect of the plant.

> Timidity, of all afraid, Her wreath of the mimosa braid.

The sensitive plant was doubtless assigned as the emblem of prudery from its generic and specific names, mimosa prudica, which may be strictly rendered, mockmodest. But the English name, sensitive plant, conveys a much more pleasing idea, and summons to our

view the lovely and gentle maiden, whose genuine modesty sheds an agreeable air of timidity over all her actions.

THANKFULNESS.

AGRIMONY. 152 - AGRIMONIA EUPATORIA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ROSACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DODECANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A medical plant, perennial, bears a yellow flower in June and July. The fruit is hispid. The cauline leaves are pinnate, with oblong ovate leaflets. The spikes are elevated. The petals are twice as long as the calyx.

AGRIMONY is a pretty species of campanula, whose flowers, of the most delicate lilac colour, are suspended from the plant like little bells. The French commonly call it "Religieuse des Champs;" and Madame de Chastenay says, in her Calendar of Flora,—"It is suspected that this has been called agrimony from the resemblance of its flowers to the hermit's bell. For my own part I think that gratitude has given it the name of 'Religieuse des Champs,' in honour, probably, of some kind, tender, and beneficent Sister of Charity."

THINK OF ME.

PANSY, OR HEART'S-EASE. 153 - VIOLA TRICOLOR.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — VIOLACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental annual; the stem angled, branched; the leaves oblong, deeply crenate; stipules lyrate, pinnatifid; petals longer than the calyx. Extremely variable in the size and colour of its flowers.

— pray you, love, remember,
There's pansies—that's for thoughts.

SHAKSPERE.

The tints of this flower are scarce less varied than the names that have been bestowed upon it. That of pansy is a corruption of the French name, pensée, thought.

Leigh Hunt introduces the heart's-ease into his verses,

The garden's gem, Heart's-ease, like a gallant bold, In his cloth of purple and gold.

Phillips observes that the most brilliant purples of the artist appear dull when compared to that of the pansy; our richest satins and velvets coarse and unsightly by a comparison of texture; and as to delicacy of shading, it is scarcely surpassed by the bow of Iris itself.

Pansies are among the flowery gifts of the simple shepherds to the metamorphosed nymph Sabrina.

The shepherds at their festivals Carol her good deeds loud in rustic lays, And throw sweet garland wreaths into her stream, Of pansies, pinks, and gaudy daffodils.

COMUS.

TRANQUILLITY.

ROCK MADWORT. 154 - ALYSSUM SAXATILE.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — CRUCIFERÆ.
ART. CLASS, - TETRADYNAMIA; ORDER, — SILICULOSA.

An evergreen undershrub, bearing a yellow flower in April and May. Its stems are half shrubby at the base, subcorymbose; leaves lanceolate, entire, downy; the pods obovate, orbicular, two-seeded; seeds edged.

There is a gentle element, and man May breathe it with a calm unruffled soul, And drink its living waters, till his heart Is pure, and this is human happiness.

WILLIS.

This plant was esteemed by the ancients on account of its supposed power to allay anger. The species generally are showy plants, and of easy culture. The rock madwort is very ornamental early in the season.

TRANSIENT HAPPINESS.

SPIDERWORT.155 - TRADESCANTIA VIRGINICA.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMMELINEÆ.

ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An herbaceous plant, deciduous, bearing a very beautiful blue flower from May to October. The stem is erect; the leaves are lanceolate, smooth; the flowers are umbelled, clustered, terminal.

This plant is generally admitted as a border flower. The French have called it *Ephémérine de Virginie*, because its flowers fade rapidly; they have also made it the emblem of transient happiness. The dead flowers are quickly succeeded by others, from April to the end of October.

TREACHERY.

BILBERRY. 156 - VACCINIUM MYRTILLUS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — ERICEÆ. ART. CLASS, — OCTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A fruit-bearing shrub, common on heaths and moorland. The peduncles are one-flowered; the leaves serrate, ovate, deciduous; the stem is angular; the berries glaucous, very agreeable to the palate.

This species of whortle-berry is an elegant and also a fruit-bearing plant. "The young fresh green leaves, and wax-like red flowers, appear in May, and towards autumn the leaves grow darker and firm, and the ripe berries are gathered in the north for tarts;" and in the Highlands they are eaten with milk; and also in Derbyshire, where they are found in great quantities.

The bilberry has been made the symbol of treachery from the following fable:— "CRnomaiis, father of the beautiful Hippodamia, had for his charioteer the young Myrtilus, son of Mercury. CEnomaiis offered the hand of his daughter to any one who should outdo him in a chariot race. Pelops, anxious to obtain Hippodamia, bribed Myrtilus to overthrow his master's chariot, and CEnomaiis was killed. In dying, he cried for vengeance, when Myrtilus was changed into the shrub which has ever since borne his name."

TRUTH.

.......

BITTER-SWEET NIGHTSHADE.137 -- SOLANUM DULCAMARA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — SOLANEE. ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

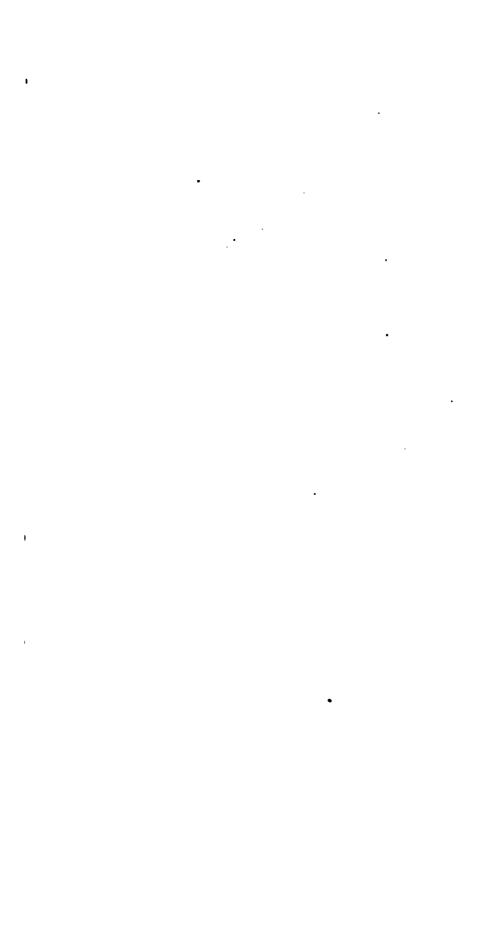
A poisonous climber, common in hedges. Flowers, which appear in June and July, purple. Anthers large, yellow, united into a cone-shaped figure. Berries ovate, red.

THE ancients thought that truth was the mother of



I destrone die de bina

Printed by Calamaia



the virtues, the daughter of time, and the queen of the world. We moderns say, that that divinity hides herself at the bottom of a well, and that she always mingles some bitterness with her sweets; and we appoint for her emblem an useless plant that loves the shade and is ever clothed in green. The bitter-sweet nightshade is, we believe, the only plant in our climate, that sheds and reproduces its foliage twice in one year. Its roots smell somewhat like the potato, and being chewed, produce a sensation of bitterness on the palate, which is succeeded by sweetness. From this singular fact it derives its specific name "bitter-sweet."

UTILITY.

GRASS.

He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man, that he may bring forth food out of the earth.

FSALM civ. 14.

Ir will be admitted that what is the most useful, is in nature the most common; and of all vegetable productions, what is there more common than grass? It clothes the earth with a verdant carpet, and it yields food,—nay, it "grows for the cattle," in obedience to the Creator's word,

Let the earth
Put forth the verdant grass, herb yielding seed,
And fruit tree yielding fruit after her kind,
Whose seed is in herself upon the earth.
He scarce had said, when the bare earth, till then
Desert and bare, unsightly, unadorned,
Brought forth the tender grass, whose verdure clad
Her universal face with pleasant green;
Then herbs of every leaf, that sudden flowered
Opening their various colours, and made gay
Her bosom, smiling sweet.

MILTON.

Howitt observes, — "When grasses of the larger species are collected and disposed tastefully, as I have seen them by ladies, in vases, polished horns, and over pier-glasses, they retain their freshness through the year, and form with their elegantly pensile panicles, bearded spikes, and silken plumes, exceedingly graceful ornaments."

USELESSNESS.

MEADOW SWEET. 158 - SPIRÆA ULMARIA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - ROSACE &.
ART. CLASS, - ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, - DI-PENTAGYNIA.

A tuberous-rooted plant, perennial, somewhat ornamental. The flowers are rose-coloured, in racemes, which are terminal, compound; the leaves are elliptico-lanceolate, serrated, glabrous.

This plant, called by the French "Reine des prés," is deemed an useless herb, because herbalists have not discovered any medicinal properties in it; and, also, because animals reject it as food. It is, however, a highly ornamental flower, and surely that ought to be accounted something.

VARIETY.

CHINA ASTER. 159 - ASTER CHINENSIS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - COMPOSITE.
ART. CLASS, - SYNGENESIA; ORDER, - SUPERFLUA.

A pretty annual. The leaves are ovate, coarsely toothed, stalked; the cauline leaves are sessile, cuneate at the base; the stem is bispid; branches have single heads.

EUROPE is indebted to the missionary, Father d'Incarville, for this beautiful various-coloured flower; he having first sent it to the "Jardin du Roi," at Paris, about 1759. At first it produced only simple flowers of one uniform colour; but, by cultivation, they became so doubled and quadrapled in form, and so varied in colour, that it now forms one of the principal ornaments of our parternes from July to November.

The Chinese, who have favoured us with this plant, make admirable use of it in decorating their gardens. To prepare them, they first raise the plants in pots; then, separating the colours, they dispose them with such infinite art as to produce one splendid and harmonious whole. This effect is often increased by planting them near the side of a lake.

The China-aster is made the emblem of variety; and owes its principal charms to the careful culture of the skilful gardener, who has surrounded its golden disks with every colour of the rainbow. So study produces an endless variety in the refinement of the human mind. Though majestic and brilliant, the China-aster is not the imprudent rival of the rose, but succeeds it, and consoles us for its absence.

WAR.

YARROW. 160 - ACHILLEA MILLEFOLIUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — COMPOSITÆ.

ART. CLASS, — SYNGENESIA; ORDER, — SUPERFLUA.

An evergreen perennial, common in pastures. The leaves are bipinnate, slightly hairy, their segments linear, toothed, acute; stems furrowed.

The yarrow, wherewithal he stops the wound-made gore.

DRAYTON.

MILFOIL, or Yarrow, cicatrizes all wounds made by iron. It is said that Achilles, whose name it bears, used it to cure the wounds of Telephus. From this Achilles, who was a disciple of Chiron, it has received its scientific name. There is one species which is an excellent sudorific and aromatic.

WEAKNESS.

MOSCHATEL.161 - ADOXA MOSCHATELLINA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — SAXIFRAGREÆ.
ART. CLASS, — OCTANDRIA; ORDER, — TRIGYNIA.

A curious perennial, found in woods and shady places. The root is tuberous; the stem about a span high; leaves triternate, lobed, and cut; peduncle single, terminal, with a head of four verticillate flowers, and a fifth terminal one.

This plant, commonly called musk-crowfoot, emits an

odour so light and agreeable, that it pleases even those who have a particular dislike to musk. It is minute, and by no means beautiful, and grows in obscure places. Its generic name is *adoxa*, which is derived from the Greek, and signifies inglorious.

WISDOM.

WHITE MULBERRY. - MORUS ALBA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — URTICEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — MONŒCIA; ORDER, — TETRANDRIA.

A cultivated tree in its native country, China. Its leaves are deeply cordate, unequal at the base, ovate, lobed, unequally serrated, smoothish.

O sacred solitude! divine retreat!
Choice of the prudent! envy of the great!
By thy pure stream, or in the waving shade,
We court fair wisdom, that celestial maid!
YOUNG.

THE ancients named the white mulberry the tree of wisdom, because of its tardiness in putting forth its leaves. We say, "foolish almond, wise mulberry," because the almond is the first to flower. A branch of almond, joined with a branch of white mulberry, expresses that wisdom should temper activity.

"This species of mulberry is commonly cultivated in

France and other countries for its leaves, to feed silkworms; and in many parts of the continent, when the leaves are wanted for the worms, they are stripped off the young shoots, which are left naked on the tree: in other places the shoots are cut off, which is not so injurious to the tree, while the points of the shoots as well as the leaves are eaten by the worms."

YOUNG GIRL.

ROSE BUD.

Who can say whether the white rose, or the red, the budding, or the full blown, has been most celebrated? Oft, indeed, have all been sung; and the rose bud, from its grace, and gradually maturing beauty, has not been inappropriately made emblematical of a young girl.

The gentle budding rose, quoth she, behold,
That first scant peeping forth with morning beams,
Half ope, half shut, her beauties doth unfold,
In its fair leaves, and less seen, fairer seems;
And after spreads them forth, more fair and bold.

FAIRFAX.

Alas! "all that's bright must fade!" How true a picture of human life, and of the growth and decay of

human beauty, is exhibited in the following lines by Jeremy Taylor:-"But so I have seen a rose newly springing from the clefts of its hood: and, at first it was fair as the morning, and full with the dew of Heaven, as a lamb's fleece; but when a rude breath had forced open its modesty, and dismantled its youthful retirement, it began to put on darkness, and decline to softness, and the symptoms of a sickly age came on; it bowed its head and broke its stalk; and at night having lost some of its leaves, and all its beauty, it fell with the portion of weeds and outworn faces."

> Go! lovely rose! Tell her that wastes her time, and me, That now she knows, When I resemble her to thee, How sweet and fair she seems to be.

Then die! that she The common fate of all things rare May read in thee; How small a part of time they share That are so wondrous sweet and fair.

WALLER.

The just opening rose-bud has been a favourite theme, and certainly its beauty has no rival.

> A red rose-bud moist with morning dew, Breathing delight.

THOMSON.

Ah! see the virgin rose, how sweetly she Doth first put forth, with bashful modesty, That fairer seems, the less ye see her may.

SPENSER.

YOUTH.

WHITE LILAC.

That lilac's cleaving cones have burst,

The milk-white flowers revealing;
E'en now upon my senses first,

Methinks their sweets are stealing.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.

On account of the purity and short duration of the delicate flowers of the white lilac, it has been made the symbol of youth; of that fleet and enchanting period which no wealth can purchase, nor power retain or restore.

YOUR IMAGE IS ENGRAVEN ON MY HEART.

SPINDLE-TREE. 162 - ENONYMUS EUROPÆA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RHAMNI. ART. CLASS, — PENTANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental shrub, growing in hedges. The flower stalks are compressed, three-flowered; the flower is usually tetrandrous; the leaves are oblong-lanceolate, smooth.

This shrub bears the name of spindle, because that

article is most commonly made of its wood; it is also used in the preparation of crayons. The sculptor and the turner value it highly. If the wood be useful to the arts, the shrub has claims to the esteem of the cultivator. The hedges which they ornament with rosy fruit have a very pretty effect in the autumn.

YOUR LOOKS FREEZE ME.

FICOIDES, OR ICE-PLANT. - MESEMBRYANTHEMUM CRYSTALLINUM.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — FICOIDE ART. CLASS, — ICOSANDRIA; ORDER, — DI-PENTAGYNIA.

A deciduous trailer, curious in its appearance. Its leaves are large, ovate, acute, wavy, frosted, with three nerves beneath; the root is biennial.

With pellucid studs the ice-flower gems His rising foliage, and his candied stems.

DARWIN.

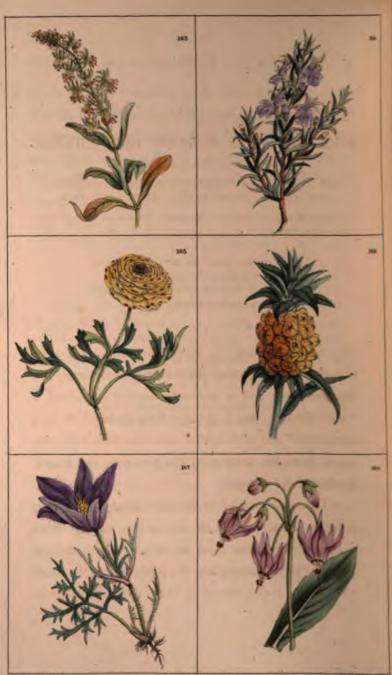
THE leaves of this singular plant are covered with transparent vesicles full of water. When in the shade it seems to be gemmed with dew-drops; but when exposed to the burning sun, it appears scattered over with frozen crystals, which reflect with great brilliancy the rays of the sun: on this account it is commonly called ice-plant.



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Litebrani All. & Steen

YOUR QUALITIES SURPASS YOUR CHARMS.

MIGNONETTE. 163 - RESEDA ODORATA.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — RESEDACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DODECANDRIA; ORDER, — TRIGYNIA.

A fragrant annual. Its leaves are entire, three-lobed; the involucres shorter than florets.

No gorgeous flowers the meek reseda grace, Yet sip with eager trunk yon busy race Her simple cup, nor heed the dazzling gem That beams in Fritillaria's diadem.

DR. EVANS.

We have possessed this Egyptian weed, called mignonette, or little darling, by the French, for nearly one hundred years, and it has so far become naturalised in "our climate, that it springs from seeds of its own scattering," and its delightful odour has thus been conveyed from the parterre of the prince to the humbl garden of the cottager.

"The odour exhaled by this little flower is thought by some to be too powerful for the house; but even those persons, we presume, must be delighted with the fragrance which it throws from the balconies into the streets of London, giving something like a breath of garden air to the 'close pent man,' whose avocations will not permit a ramble beyond the squares of the fashionable part of the town."

> What, are the casements lined with creeping herbs, The prouder sashes fronted with a range Of orange, myrtle, or the fragrant weed, The Frenchman's darling?

Linnæus compares its perfumes to those of ambrosia; and it is sweeter and more penetrating at the rising and setting of the sun than at noon.

The mignonette has found its way into the armorial bearings of an ancient Saxon family; and the following romantic story is said to have introduced this fragrant little flower to the Pursuivant at Arms:—

"The Count of Walstheim was the favoured aspirant for the hand of Amelia de Nordbourg, a young lady possessing all the charms requisite for the heroine of a modern novel, excepting that she delighted in exciting jealousy in the breast of her intended lord. As she was the only child of a widowed mother, a female cousin, possessing but little personal beauty, and still less fortune, had been brought up with her from infancy as a companion, and as a stimulus to her education. The humble and amiable

Charlotte was too insignificant to attract much attention in the circles in which her gay cousin shone with so much splendour, which gave her frequent opportunities of imparting a portion of that instruction she had received to the more humble class of her own sex. Returning from one of these charitable visits, and entering the gay saloon of her aunt, where her exit or entrance was scarcely noticed, she found the party amusing themselves in selecting flowers, whilst the Count and the other beaux were to make verses on the choice of each of the ladies. Charlotte was requested to make her selection of a flower; the sprightly Amelia had taken a rose, others a carnation, a lily, or the flowers most likely to call forth a compliment; and the delicate idea of Charlotte, in selecting the most humble flower, by placing a sprig of mignonette in her bosom, would probably have passed unnoticed, had not the flirtation of her cousin with a dashing colonel, who was more celebrated for his conquests in the drawing-room than the battle-field, attracted the notice of the Count, so as to make his uneasiness visible, whom the amiable Charlotte, ever studious of Amelia's real happiness, wished to amuse, and to call back the mind of her cousin, demanded the verse for the rose. The Count

saw this affectionate trait in Charlotte's conduct, took out his pencil, and wrote for the rose,

Elle ne vit qu'un jour, et ne plait qu'un moment,

which he gave to the gay daughter, at the same time presenting the humble cousin with this line on the mignonette:—

Ses qualités surpassent ses charmes.

Amelia's pride was roused, and she retaliated by her attention to the colonel, which she carried so far as to throw herself into the power of a profligate, who brought her to ruin. The Count transferred his affections from beauty to amiability; and rejoicing in the exchange, and to commemorate the event which had brought about his happiness, and delivered him from a coquette, he added a branch of the sweet reseda to the ancient arms of his family, with the motto,

Your qualities surpass your charms.

YOUR PRESENCE REVIVES ME.

ROSEMARY, 164 - ROSMARINUS OFFICINALIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — LABIATÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DIANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A deciduous shrub. Its leaves are sessile.

This shrub yields by distillation a light pale essential oil of great fragrance, which is imparted to rectified spirit. It was formerly recommended for strengthening the nervous system, for the cure of headachs, &c., as well as to strengthen the memory. Rosemary has also been made the emblem of fidelity, and used accordingly to be worn at weddings, and, on the same principle, at funerals. It is the principal ingredient in Hungary water, and is drank as tea for headachs, and by nervous persons.

YOU ARE COLD.

HYDRANGEA. - HYDRANGEA HORTENSIS.

NAT. CLASS, — DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — SAXIFRAGEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — DECANDRIA; ORDER, — DIGYNIA.

A well known deciduous shrub, bearing a profusion of elegant pink flowers from April to September. The cymes are radiate; the leaves elliptical, narrowed at each end, toothed, smooth.

WE have possessed this plant only for a short time.

Although its corymbose flowers be alternately of white, purple, and violet colour, they have a brilliant effect in our drawing-rooms; its cold and stately beauty quickly fades;—it is the image of a coquette who, without grace and without the power which intellect confers, seeks to please only by her attention to her toilet.

YOU ARE RADIANT WITH CHARMS.

ASIATIC BANUNCULUS. 165 - RANUNCULUS ASIATICUS.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - RANUNCULACEM.
ART. CLASS, - POLYANDRIA; ORDER, - POLYGYNIA.

A perennial, bearing various coloured flowers in May and June. Its root is tuberous; its leaves are ternate or biternate; segments toothed, or cut trifid; stem erect, simple, or branched; fruit in a cylindrical spike.

> From the soft wing of vernal breezes shed, Anemones, auriculas, enriched With shining meal o'er all their velvet leaves; And full ranunculus of glowing red.

> > THOMSON.

THE Asiatic ranunculus blooms amid our parterres in the earliest days of spring, spreading forth its varied lustrous flowers, which, shining with innumerable hues, are radiant with attractions. No other plant offers so rich a variety of colour to amateurs, "from a black down to white, through all the shades of reds, yellows, browns, and, indeed, excepting blue, every colour may be found in these gaily painted flowers."

Though this is one of the most hardy of the garden ranunculuses, and makes the most brilliant appearance by its vivid scarlet colour, it is almost lost in this country, or so little esteemed in comparison with the Persian ranunculus, that it is seldom cultivated by the epicurean florist. We have sometimes met with this variety in the cottage gardens, which border the sandy commons of Sussex and Surrey, where meeting with a congenial soil, it seems to linger like an expiring flame.

YOU ARE PERFECT.

PINE APPLE. 166 - BROMELIA ANANAS.

NAT. CLASS, — MONOCOTYLEDONES; ORDER, — BROMELIACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, — HEXANDRIA; ORDER, — MONOGYNIA.

A fruit bearing herbaceous plant. The leaves are fringed with spines, mucronate; the spike is comose.

THE fruit of the pine apple, surrounded by its beautiful leaves, and surmounted by a crown, in which the germ of a plant is concealed, seems as though it were sculptured in massy gold. It is so beautiful, that it appears to be made to please the eyes; so delicious that it unites the various flavours of our best fruits; and so odoriferous that we should cultivate it, if it were only for its perfume.

YOU ARE WITHOUT PRETENSION.

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PASQUE PLOWER ANEMONE. 167 - ANEMONE PULSATILLA.

NAT. CLASS, -- DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, -- RANUNCULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, -- POLYANDRIA; ORDER, -- POLYGYNIA.

A pretty perennial, bearing a violet coloured flower in April and May; found in chalky pastures. The leaves are pinnated with multifid segments; lobes linear; flower somewhat nodding; sepals six spreading.

THE pasque flower, which bears the Italian name of pulsatilla, because its downy seeds are driven about by the winds, is covered, during the whole summer, with an infinite number of little purple or violet-coloured flowers, which closely resemble carnations. It loves open places, and is well adapted to ornament hilly situations; and requires no attention. There is a variety of this species with white petals, and another with double flowers.

YOU ARE MY DIVINITY.

AMERICAN COWSLIP. 168 - DODECATHEON MEADIA.

NAT. CLASS, - DICOTYLEDONES; ORDER, - PRIMULACEÆ.
ART. CLASS, - PENTANDRIA; ORDER, - MONOGYNIA.

An ornamental perennial, bearing light purple flowers in May and June. The leaves are radical, flat on the ground; scape bearing at the top an umbel of drooping flowers.

Smile like a knot of cowslips on the cliff.

BLAIR.

THE elegant stem of a single root of this plant springs from the centre of a rosette of large leaves crouched on the earth. In April it is crowned with twelve pretty flowers with the cups reversed. Linnæus has given it the name of "Dodecatheon," which signifies "twelve divinities," a name, perhaps, somewhat too extravagant for a small plant so modest in its appearance.

It was first found by Michaux, in the Alleghany mountains, and subsequently discovered to be very common in the woody country of British North America. Seeds were sent by the late Mr. Drummond from the rocky mountains to the Botanic Gardens of Edinburgh and Glasgow, where plants were raised. It is hardy, and thrives best in light loamy soil. It should be

kept in shady moist places, in the open ground, and not in pots. It is of great elegance and beauty, and well worthy of cultivation.

An American writer says of them, in their indigenous soil, that they resemble a cluster of bright yellow polyanthuses. "Our gold cowslips," he adds, "look like a full branch of large clustering king-cups; they carelessly raise themselves on their firm stalks, their corollas gazing upward to the changing spring sky, as they grow amidst their pretty leaves of vivid green. They adorn almost every meadow, and shed a glow of beauty wherever they spring."



LIST OF PLANTS,

WITH

THE QUALITY THEY SEVERALLY EXPRESS.

Acacia. Platonic love.
Acacia Rose. Elegance.

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Agnus Castus. Coldness. To live without love.

Agrimony. Thankfulness.

Aloc. Bitterness.

Almond Tree. Indiscretion.

Almond Laurel. Perfidy.

Amaranth. Immortality.

Amaryllis. Haughtiness. Pride.

American Cowslip. You are my divinity.

Anemone, Field. Sickness.

———— Garden. Forsaken.

Angelica. Inspiration.

Apple Blossom. Preference.

A Rose Leaf. I never importune.

Arum, or Wake Robin.

Ardour.

Ash.

Grandeur.

Asphodel.

My regrets follow you to the grave.

Balm Gentle.

Pleasantry.

Balm of Gilead. Balsam. Healing.
Impatience.

Barberry.

Sharpness.

Basil.

Hatred.

Bear's Breech.

Bilberry.

Arts (the).

Beech.

Prosperity.

Bee-Ophrys, or Orchis.

Error.
Treachery,

Bindweed.

Humility.

Black Thorn.

Difficulty.

Bladder-Nut Tree.

Frivolous Amusement.

Blue Bottle Centaury.

Delicacy.
Bluntness.

Borage. Box.

Diana.co.

DUX.

Stoicism.

Bramble.

Envy.

Broken Straw.

Dissension. Rupture.

Broom.

Neatness.

Buckbean.

Calm Repose.

Burdock.

Importunity.

Buttercups.

Ingratitude.

Candy Tuft.

Indifference.

LIST OF PLANTS.

Canterbury Bell, Blue Constancy.
Carnation, Yellow. Disdain.
Catchfly. Snare.

Cherry Tree. Good Education.
Chesnut Tree. Do me justice.

China Aster. Variety.
China, or Indian Pink. Aversion.

Cinquefoil. Beloved Daughter.

Clematis. Artifice.
Clove Pink. Dignity.

Colt's-foot. Justice shall be done you.

Columbine. Folly.

Coriander. Hidden Merit.

Daisy. Innocence.

---- , Garden. I partake your sentiments.

— , White. I will think of it.

Daffodil. Delusive Hope.

Dandelion. Oracle.

Dead Leaves. Sadness.

Dittany of Crete. Birth.

Dodder. Baseness.

Ebony. Blackness. Eglantine, or Sweet Briar. Poetry. Enchanter's Night-shade. Fascination.

Fennel. Strength. Fern. Sincerity. -, Flowering. Reverie. Fir Tree. Elevation.

Flax. I feel your kindness.

Flora's Bell. You are without pretension.

Fraxinella. Fire.

Geranium, Sorrowful. Melancholy spirit. Gillyflower. Lasting beauty. Goodness. Goose-foot. Grass. Utility.

Hope. Hawthorn.

Hazel. Reconciliation.

Heart's Ease, or Pansy. Think of me.

Solitude. Heath.

Hepatica, or Noble Liverwort. Confidence. Foresight.

Holly.

Hollyhock. Fruitfulness.

Bonds of love. Honeysuckle.

Injustice. Hop.

Ornament. Hornbeam.

Hydrangea.

Luxury.

Hydrangea.

You are cold.

Hyacinth.

Game. Play.

Ice Plant.Your looks freeze me.Indian Jasmine.I attach myself to You.

Iris. Message.

—, German. Flame.

Ivy. Friendship.

Jessamine, or Jasmine. Amiability.

Jonquille. Desire.

Juniper. Asylum. Protection.

Laurel. Boldness. Glory.

Laurustine. I die if neglected.

Lilac. First emotion of Love.

----, White. Youth.

Lily, White. Purity and Modesty.

Lily of the Valley. Return of Happiness.

Linden Tree. Conjugal Love.

London Pride. Frivolity.

Lucern. Life.

Madder. Calumny.

Maiden Hair. Discretion. Secrecy.

Mallow. Mild or Sweet Disposition.

ys are past.

ies surpass your charms.

ease.

Manchineel Tree, Falsehood,
Mandrake. Rarity,
Maple. Reserve.
Marvel of Peru. Timidity.

Madwort, Rock.

Marygold.

----, Small Cape

Meadow Saffron

Meadow Sweet.

Mezereon.

Michaelman Dai

Michaelmas Daisy.
Mignonette.

Misseltoe. 1 surmount all difficulties.

Moonwort. Forgetfulness.

Moschatel. Weakness.

Moss Rose. Pleasure without alloy.

Moss, Tuft of. Maternal Love.

Motherwort. Secret Love.

Moving Plant. Agitation.

Mulberry Tree, Black. I will not survive You.

Mulberry, White. Wisdom.

Mushroom. Suspicion.

Musk Rose. Capricious beauty.

Myrobalan. Privation.

Myrtle. Love.

Myosotis, or Mouse Ear. Forget-me-not.

Nettle. Cruelty.

Night Convolvulus. Night.

Nightshade, Bitter Sweet. Truth.

Nosegay. Gallantry.

Oak. Hospitality.
Olive Branches. Peace.
Orange Flower. Chastity.
Orange Tree. Generosity.

Parsley. Entertainment. Feasting.

Pasque Flower. You are without pretension.

Periwinkle. Sweet Remembrances.

Peruvian Heliotrope. I love you. Infatuation.

Pheasant's Eye. Sorrowful Remembrances.

Pimpernel. Assignation.
Pine Apple. You are perfect.

Pink. Lively and Pure Affection.

Plane Tree. Genius.

Plum Tree. Keep your promises.

Poet's Narcissus.

Potato.

Beneficence.

Poplar, Black. Courage

———, White. Time.

Poppy. Consolation of sleep.

—, White. Sleep of the Heart.

Primrose.	Early Youth.
——, Evening.	Inconstancy.
Privet.	Prohibition.
Provins Rose.	Graces.
Pyramidal Bell Flower.	Gratitude.
Quaking Grass.	Agitation.
Ranunculus.	You are radiant with charms.
Red Shanks.	Patience.
Red Valerian.	Accommodating Disposition.
Reeds.	Music.
Rest Harrow.	Obstacle.
Rose.	Beauty.
, Monthly.	Beauty ever new.
, Wild.	Simplicity.
, White.	Silence.
, Hundred leaved.	Graces.
Rosebud.	Young Girl.
, White.	The heart that knows not love.
Rosemary.	Your presence revives me.
Rose-scented Geranium.	Preference.
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Rush.	Docility.
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Yarrow. War.
Yellow Day Lily. Coque

Yellow Day Lily. Coquetry. Yellow Rose. Infidelity.

Yew. Sorrow.

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GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS.

ACUMINATE. - Having an open or awl-shaped point.

AGGREGATE. - Gathered together in fascicles or bundles.

Angular. - Formed of, or furnished with angles.

APETALOUS. — Plants whose floral development is without petals are said to be apetalous.

APPRESSED. — When the limb of a leaf is pressed close upon the stem, or when hairs are laid flat upon the surface of a plant, they are said to be appressed.

Assurgent. — Rising perpendicularly without artificial sup-

Awns. - The beards of barley are so called.

Axillary. — Placed in the axilla (arm-pit). A term by which the angle formed by the union of the leaf and the stem is designated.

BIENNIAL.—A plant is said to be biennial, which produces the stem and leaves one year, and flowers and dies the next.

BIFID. - Cut half in two from the summit; two-cleft.

BIPINNATIFID. - Twice pinnatifid.

BITERNATE. - Cut into three twice over.

Bracter. — Small leaves placed between the proper leaves of the plant and the flower-cup.

CAPITATE. - Growing in the form of a head.

CATKIN. — Term used to designate the inflorescence of amentaceous plants, as in the hazel, &c.

CAULINE. - Developed on the stem.

CERNUOUS.—When a plant grows in a nodding, drooping, or pendulous manner, it is termed cernuous.

CILIATED. — Eye-lash haired; bordered with soft parallel hairs.

Comose. — Term applied to a flower shoot which is terminated by barren bracteæ.

COMPOUND. — Several things in one. A compound umbel is formed of several compound umbels; the chrysanthemum is a compound flower, being formed of numerous little flowers or florets.

CONCAVE. - Hollowed.

CONE. — A particular kind of compound fruit, such as that of the pine tribe.

CONNATE. - Situated opposite each other, and joined at the base.

CONNIVENT. — Converging.

CORDATE. — Heart-shaped; according to the vulgar notion of a heart.

CORYMB.—A bunch of flowers where the footstalks proceed from different parts of the principal axis, but all attain the same height.

CORYMBOSE. — Formed or arranged after the manner of a corymb.

CRENE. - Notches, or round teeth, bordering a leaf or the petals of a flower.

CRENATE. - Notched; when the teeth are rounded, and not directed towards either end of the leaf.

CRENULATE. - Filled with notches.

CULM .- The stem of grasses.

CUNEATE. — Wedge-shaped; broad and abrupt at the summit, and tapering down to the base.

CYMBIFORM. - Having the form of a boat.

CYME.—A mode of flowering somewhat like a flattened panicle.

Decipuous. — Falling off. Trees shedding their leaves, and the leaves shed annually, are said to be deciduous.

DECOMPOUND.—Term applied to a leaf when it is twice pinnated; and to a panicle when its branches are also panicled.

DECUMBENT. - Lying down.

DECURRENT.—When leaves run down the stem to a point considerably below the place where they diverge from it.

DEFLEXED. - Folded downwards.

DENTICULATED .- Being finely toothed.

DEPRESSED. - Pressed downwards.

DICHOTOMOUS. — A stem that ramifies in pairs.

DIGITATE. - Having the form of an open hand.

DIECTOUS.—When a plant bears female flowers on one individual and males on another it is called diectious.

DISTICHOUS.—Leaves or flowers placed in two opposite rows are so termed.

EGLANDULOSE. - Without glands.

ELLIPTIC. - Nearly oval, but of equal breadth at each end.

ELLIPTIC-LANCEOLATE. — A form between an ellipsis and a lance-shape.

EMARGINATE. — Being slightly notched at the end, as the box leaf.

Ensironm.—Having the form of a sword with a straight blade.

FASCICLES.—When leaves or flowers grow more than two together they are said to be fasciculated, or in fascicles.

FASTIGIATE. - Tapering to a narrow point, like a pyramid.

FILIFORM. - Long and simple, like a thread.

FLEXUOSE. - Having a bent or wavy direction.

FLORETS. — Little flowers. A term chiefly applied to those which were formerly called compound flowers.

FROND. — The leaf of the palm tree is so called.

Fuscous. — Of a blackish brown colour.

Fusiform. - Radish or carrot-shaped.

GLABROUS. - Smooth.

GLANDULOSE. - Having small glands on the surface.

GLAUCOUS. — Smooth, of a sea-green colour; as the leaf of the holly, &c.

GLOBOSE. - Round or spherical, like the orange.

GLUME. - A part of the floral envelopes of grass.

HASTATE. - Formed like the head of an ancient halbert.

HERBACEOUS. — Plants whose stems perish annually with the fall of the leaf.

HISPID. — When the spines on the surface of a leaf are not very visible to the naked eye,

HOARY .- Covered over with white down.

IMBRICATE. — When leaves are laid one over another, like tiles on a roof, they are said to be imbricated.

INCURVED .- Folding inwards.

INVOLUCRE. — Where the bracteæ, or floral leaves, are set in a whorl.

INVOLUTE. — Term applied to leaves when rolled inward.

LAMELLE. — Term applied to the plates which form the gills of the mushroom; plates.

LANCEOLATE. — Lance or spear-shaped, as in tulipa sylvestris.

LATERAL. — On one side.

Legume.—A pod; applied to the fruit of leguminous plants, such as the pea, &c.

GLOSSARY.

-Plants whose stems become gradually less ber-LIGNE bau s, and of a woody texture, and which survive more hree years the annual fall of the leaf, or which th their leaves in winter as well as summer. ret LINEAL les, as in most grasses. LUNATE. half-moon. LYRATE. many transverse segments, be tremity of the lenf, which is R

MEMBRANOW MULTIFID, — Cu nembrane, soft and supple. five, or more narrow divi-

sions.

MUCRONATE. - Sharply pointed.

MURICATED. — Covered with short sharp points.

OVAL - Having the figure of an ellipse.

OVARY. - The portion of the pistil which contains the ovules.

OVATE. - Of the shape of an egg cut lengthwise.

PALMATED. — Cut into oblong segments, so as to resemble a hand.

PANDURITORM. - Fiddle-shaped; oblong, broad at the extremities, and contracted in the centre.

PANICITE - A bunch of flowers, composed of numerous branches of different lengths, each bearing a flower.

Printeria. The footstalk, which supports a single flower.

PEDUNCLE. — The common flowerstalk, developed in the axil
of a non-radical leaf.

PERENNIAL. - Lasting many years without perishing.

PERICARP. - The vessel which contains the seed.

Persistent.—Term applied to parts of plants which remain, while contiguous parts decay.

PETALS .- The divisions of a corolla.

Petiolate. — Term applied to leaves supported on footstalks.

PETIOLE. - The footstalk of a leaf.

PINNE. - The segments of a pinnated leaf.

PINNATE. — Term applied to a leaf when cut into many parallel segments.

PROCUMBENT.—Branches spreading on the surface of the ground if not artificially raised and supported.

PUBESCENT. - Covered with soft silky hairs.

PUNGENT .- Stinging or pricking.

RACEMES.—When flowers are arranged round a filiform simple axis, each particular flower being stalked, they are said to be in racemes.

RADIANT, or RADIATE.—A flower is said to be radiant when, in a cluster of florets, those of the circumference, or ray, are long and spreading, and unlike those of the disk.

Radical.—A term applied to leaves proceeding immediately from the root, as in the daisy.

RECURVED. - Folded backward.

RETICULATED. - Having the appearance of net work.

RETUSE. - Abruptly blunt at the end.

RINGENT. - Gaping.

RUGOSE. - Rough, or coarsely wrinkled.

SAGITTATE. — Shaped like an arrow-head; triangular, very much hollowed out at the base.

SCABROUS. - Rough to the touch, opposed to glabrous.

Scales.—Any small developments resembling minute leaves; also, the leaves of the involucrum of compound flowers.

SCAPE.—A stem rising from the root, and bearing nothing but flowers.

SEGMENTS. - Portions of anything.

SEPALS. - The segments of the calyx.

Sericeous.—Having a surface like that of velvet to the touch.

SERRATED. - Edged with sharp teeth, like those of a saw.

SESSILE. — Said of leaves seated on the stem, without footstalks.

Setaceous.—Bearing some resemblance to the form of a bristle.

SILICLE. — The small round pod of cruciform flowers.

SINUATE. - Undulating, or wavy.

SPADIX. - Flower stalk developed in a spatha.

SPATHA. — A simple floral leaf, enclosing the whole inflorescence.

Spathulate. — Having the form of a spatula; a kind of knife, almost spoon-shaped, but flat.

SPIKE. - A flower so called, seated upon a long rachis.

SPINOUS .- Full of prickles.

STAMEN. - The male organ of a flower.

STIGMA. - The female organ of a flower.

STIPULE. — Two small leaves, placed usually at the base of the floral leaf, and on opposite sides of the branch.

STRIE. - Small streaks, channels or furrows.

STRIATED. — When the channels in leaves are perceptible to the touch, but invisible to the eye.

Subulate. —Very narrow at the base, and insensibly verging to a point at the summit, as the juniper leaf.

Supra-decompound. — Doubly decompounded.

TERMINAL. - Ending, or at the top.

TERNATE. - Consisting of three leaflets.

THYRSE. - A kind of dense panicle, like that of the lilac.

TOOTHED. - Cut so as to resemble teeth.

TRIANDROUS .- Having three stamens.

TRIFID. - Cut into three.

TUMID. - Swelling.

Umbels.—The round tuft of flowers produced by the carrot, &c.

UNARMED. - Opposed to spinous; free from prickles.

UNILATERAL. — When the leaves are all turned one way, and are all on one side.

North Sale - Infanet

The Theory of the vill and hole have so as almost to much the surface.

NINII — Adieste campit

WE LINE Where my pure we see yound in this in the same joints



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THE END.

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